

The
GAZETTE

Volume 121 Number 13

Friday, January 6, 1989

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THE GAZETTE

Third floor of the SUB
Volume 121 Number 13
Friday, January 6, 1989

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Commentary should not exceed 700 words. Letters should not exceed 500 words. No unsigned material will be accepted, but anonymity may be granted on request.

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The Gazette offices are located on the third floor of the SUB. Come up and have a coffee and tell us what's going on.

The views expressed in the Gazette are not necessarily those of the Students' Union, the editors or the collective staff.

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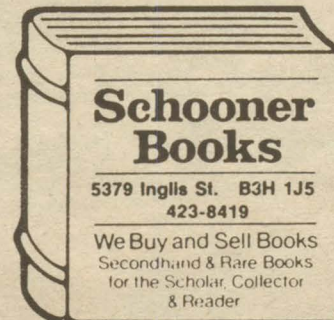
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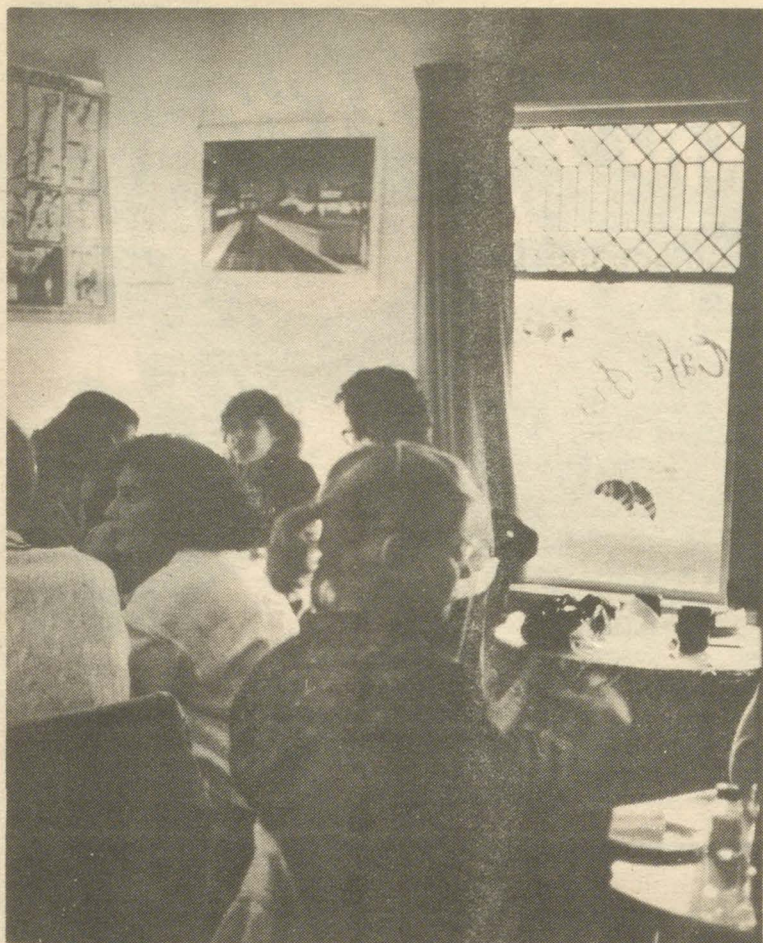


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Dites oui
au café français

Café may stay fermé

by Geoff Stone

The future of Dalhousie's Café Français is in doubt, and the financially strapped french department may need to close the lunch spot according to department chair Michael Bishop.

Bishop says the Café has been closed since the past director of the Café resigned halfway through last term. The Café was to be reopened in January with a new director, but the board of health has said the café needs new renovations, including a second sink.

Bishop says that while the department may do the renovations, with their present financial strains, the Café may be closed.

The Café began over seven years ago, and has been run by a paid student director and volunteers. The Café serves sandwiches and croissants and has provided a place for casual french conversation.

Bishop says that while the Café has worked well, it has been a burden on the department when it was not well run.

Bishop says that if the Café does close, the space may be used as a room for discussion groups, or it may be turned into office space. "We have two full time professors sharing office space, and it should be easy to get money to change it into an office."

But Bishop says for now the department will be looking at the possibility of reopening the Café especially if they can get financial help for the renovations. "It (the Café) is not a priority for us, unless the University would chip in", Bishop says.

Bishop says while the Café is a pleasant feature, the department has to look at its academic budget first, and the Café may have to be closed to maintain other services. "We could hardly place it over academic needs."

"It has been a pleasant function to have", Bishop says, but adds that, "without some renovations it does not look as it it (the Café) will continue."

Photo: Ariella Pahlke

It'll never happen. . .

Buchanan's "U. of Halifax" no solution

by Ellen Reynolds

Premier John Buchanan says Nova Scotia has too many degree-granting institutions and to solve the problem we must restructure, specialize and eventually phase out some universities and colleges.

Compared to the rest of Canada, the number of universities and colleges per capita is high in N.S. This results in comparatively low government funding per student. But not everyone shares Buchanan's opinion that the solution is to phase out some post secondary institutions.

"It's simplistic to say we have too many universities. The perception that universities are only consumers is wrong. It's important to have a strong university base" says Royden Trainor, acting chair of the Students' Union of N.S. Trainor says that with so many colleges and universities in N.S. it's difficult to meet financial demands and it's only becoming more difficult since federal government cutbacks means cutting \$55 million from education from 1986 to 1991.

"When the cutbacks were

announced the premier just sat on his hands," says Trainor who concludes that post secondary education (PSE) is obviously not a priority with the government.

"Access (to education) is crucial," says president of the Dalhousie Faculty Association, David Williams. "The existence of regional colleges has much to do with the prosperity of a region. What we need is more campuses," says Williams.

According to John D'Orsay, Executive Director of the Nova Scotia Confederation of University Faculty Associations, the percentage of college-age people attending colleges or universities in Canada is approximately half the United States percentage. And while 10.4 per cent of Nova Scotians and 12.6 per cent of Canadians have university degrees, 19.6 per cent of Americans have university degrees. The U.S. government also has plans to increase that percentage to 35 per cent of Americans with university degrees by the year 2000. D'Orsay says there is no such government concern for improvements in Canada.

"We aren't educating



On the other hand, T-shirts with the logo "Buchanan U." have great market potential. . .

college-age people at anywhere near the rate of Americans. We'll be competing on a level playing field with the Free Trade Agreement now and we will be greatly disadvantaged," says Williams.

Although some specializa-

tion is already taking place in universities and colleges across Canada, the possibility of actually phasing out an institution is unlikely. D'Orsay says we might see fewer university presidents and administrators but then there would be

the problem of which institutions would merge.

"Legally and politically it's impossible to phase out universities. I think it would be political suicide," says Trainor.

Paul Grandy: Dal Photo

Students plod on, ignore DFA slugfest

Post strike problems persist. That was the title of the Gazette editorial from the final issue last term. We were looking ahead to how exams would work out in January.

Now some students are that finding out after spending some of their Christmas holidays studying.

Those who don't have make-ups are probably trying to put the strike out of their minds, unless they are still waffling over whether to drop a course before the FINAL drop date of January 13.

Even this writer would prefer to write about something else rather than more strike issues. For example, this editorial was to have been about the Canadian University Press conference held over the holidays in Chester, N.S. But who cares about squabbling, self-righteous student journalists except others? (Even though we did slash thousands of dollars, cut positions, save the organization — sort of — and generally schmoozed, lobbied, caucused, partied, — but this editorial isn't about that.)

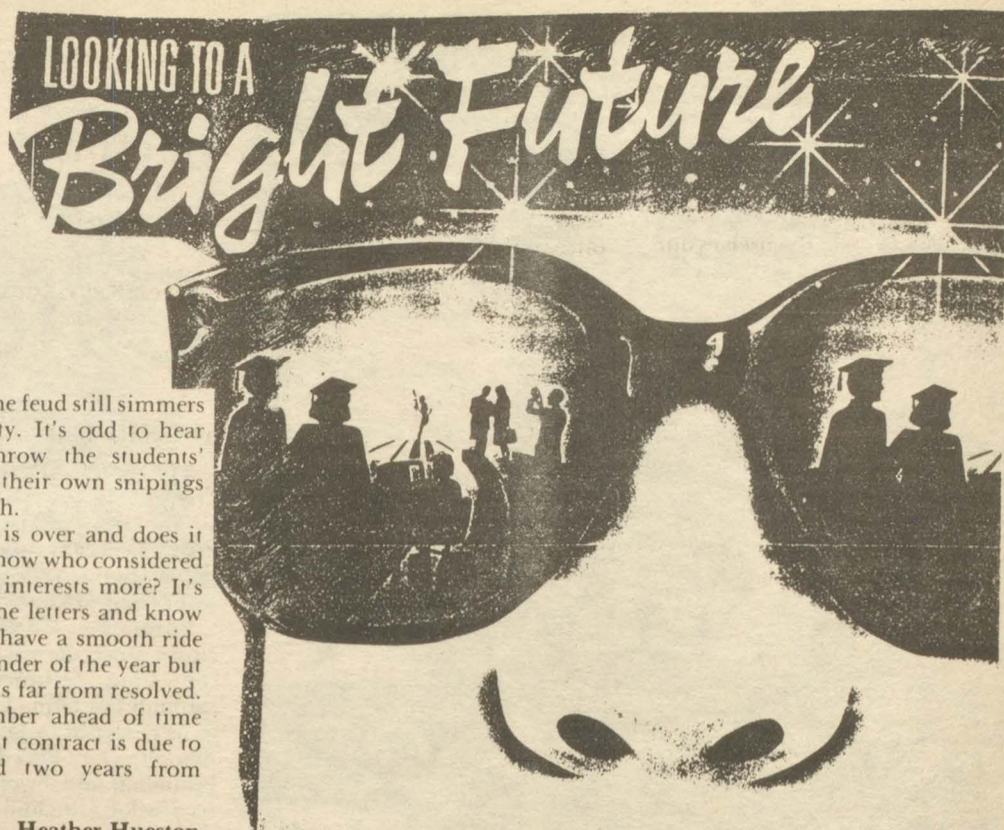
Looking at the letters below,

it's obvious the feud still simmers among faculty. It's odd to hear them still throw the students' name out in their own snipings back and forth.

The strike is over and does it really matter now who considered the students' interests more? It's best to read the letters and know that we may have a smooth ride for the remainder of the year but the problem is far from resolved.

Just remember ahead of time when the next contract is due to be negotiated two years from now. . .

Heather Hueston



Letters

Respect Dissent

To the Editors:

Re: "The Principle of the Thing" (Dec. 8)

The letter signed by some indignant DFA-members is a curious document for several reasons. It aspires to an air of ironic superiority; yet the sarcasm with which the signatories sneer at their non-striking colleagues is so forced and overdone that it results in an abortive rhetoric, which is on par with the insipid punning of the strike-slogan "Building a Better University: Sorry for the Inconvenience." The proposal of the letter is a very quaint one for unionists to make, and is not worth commenting on. But as one who was on strike and is thus not personally affected by this sneering letter I wish to comment on some of its other points.

The signatories congratulate themselves on their forbearance and respect for minority dissent. We must not be deceived by the ironic tone: it is to make their moral complacency a little less obtrusive. But what exactly do they mean when they say they show forbearance and respect for their dissenting colleagues? True, they do not shoot them or beat them up. But otherwise they do every petty thing to them they can do short of breaking the law: they denounce them as scabs; they snub them; and they have already compiled a list of their names, as one of the signatories has confided to me: it does not take much imagination to figure out what the purpose of such a list might be. They must have a rather idiosyncratic notion of tolerance and forbearance.

The motive of non-striking faculty was greed, the indignant signatories charge. Two of them, speaking for the DFA, had stated in local and national radio-shows that higher salaries were the issue of the strike — the bottom line, as

they put it. Thus the motive these DFA members attribute to the non-strikers is the very same motive that made them go on strike. Their indignation is therefore a trifle ridiculous, if not sanctimonious. This is also true of the charge of hypocrisy and of "sowing confusion among students". The DFA-members who were striking for more money publicly proclaimed they were striking for a better university and thus for the benefit of the students. They succeeded in confusing the students to the point that some of them even joined the picket-line. After the Senate meeting of

In the view of the signatories, there are two villains in the piece, and the DFA is not one of them: the non-striking faculty (because they refused to participate in the disruption) and the administration (because it refused to make the disruption total by a general lock-out). Now mark this well: both are morally condemned for having "prolong(ed) the disruption" by those who have caused this disruption in the first place! Moral philosophy has a term for such innocence, which reasons of tact prevent me from naming.

respect is all the more necessary, as DFA membership is compulsory; and without it we are politically on a very dangerous path.

Rainer Friedrich,
Professor of Classics

No cant do

To the Editors:

Personally I can live with the anger of the signatories of the letter of Dec. 8 ("The Principle of the Thing"), but there is an old saying, "principiis obsta" (resist

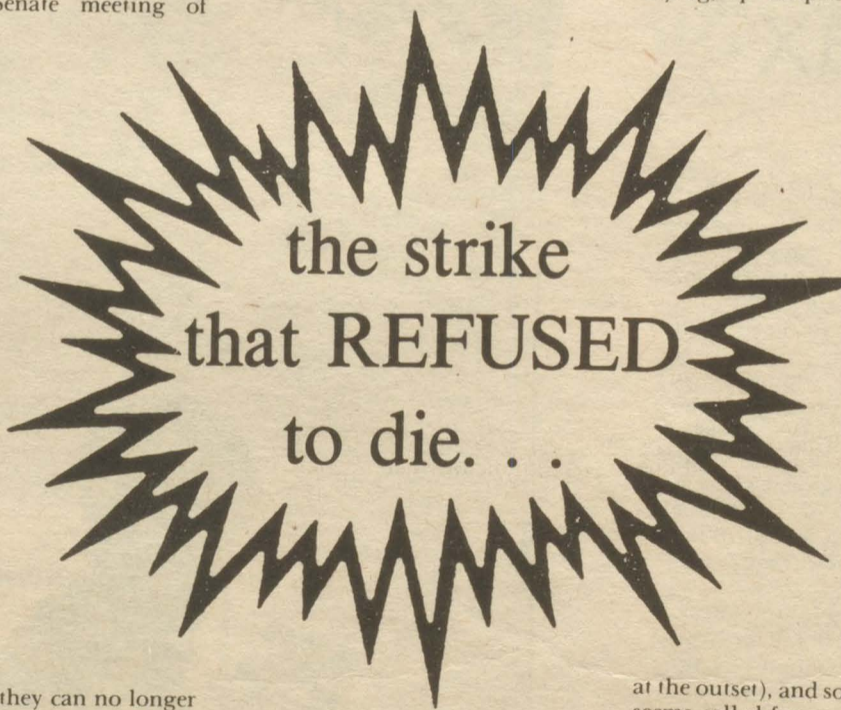
crude Marxist model simply doesn't apply to an institution in which there is so high a degree of faculty self-government as in this one. (In this connection see the article by David Braybrooke in the *Dalhousie News*, Dec. 14). And the recent strike obviously involved a variety of pondered decisions about the university's well-being, both among those who struck and those who didn't.

The signatories sneer at those who went on teaching by choice as being indifferent to "the public consequences of their action." Well, let us wait and see. Obviously those who went on strike had reached various conclusions as to the money available inside the university, and how it should best be spent, and what effects a strike would have on the funding of the university by the Province. But if they were wrong in their reading of the situation, then the gains that have been made with respect to salaries may indeed have public consequences that few could be indifferent to, such as an increasing non-replacement of faculty members who retire or go elsewhere, an increase in class sizes, a reduction of class offerings, a further deterioration of library holdings and services, and so on.

The signatories should not be so quick to assume that they have simply been conferring long-term benefits on their colleagues — or on the student body.

The strike was an impressively large one and received some very favourable publicity. I infer from the signatories' anger that it failed to achieve the financial ends that they sought, and that the intensive bargaining failed to turn up any hidden pot of gold. What bothers me is that I sense now the formation of the myth of a *Stab in the Back*, so that if and when there is a return match, everyone must be compelled by Senate or in some other way to stop teaching, whether they want to or not. The signatories' attempted delegitimization of those of us who went on teaching is an obvious move in that direction.

If there were to be a total shut-



November 28 they can no longer fool even the most naive of students.

The most curious feature of their letter is the indignation they express at both non-striking faculty and the administration for having "prolong(ed) the disruption." even the most militant of the DFA would agree that an academic strike is a disruption that causes great harm to students and the university. In order to force the administration to pay higher salaries the members of the DFA decided to inflict such harm on their students and the university by going on strike. Who is responsible for this harm?

The motives for refusing to go on strike are varied, and greed and opportunism may be among them. I went on strike against my conscience and my better judgement. It is in the nature of an academic strike that teachers take their students hostage and threaten to do them harm in order to force financial concessions from the administration (that's why academic strikes never take place in the summer). I know many who refused to go on strike because they found this morally repugnant. True respect for minority dissent would entail the respect for a motive like this. Such

at the outset), and some comment seems called for.

What we have in that letter is a totalitarian insistence that when it comes to the bottom line there can be only one valid morality for faculty at this university, namely a trade-union morality conceived in class war terms. DFA members go on strike, a strike is by definition a justifiable assertion of workers' rights against exploitative employers, and anyone who chooses not to go on strike is ignorant of the real social realities and indifferent to the common good of the university community, including the good of students.

This seems to me cant. The

continued from page 4

down, after which classes and salaries simply resumed where they left off, it would certainly not be a cost-free event for students, any more than the recent strike was. It is they who would have to maintain themselves during the extension of the school year, they who would have less time available for vacation jobs, and so on. By its very nature a strike is intended to be disruptive, either by diminishing the profits of employers or by causing difficulties for clients after lead to a return to the bargaining table. Here, of course, the clients — the captive clients — are the students.

Were I a student, I would not find it self-evident that those faculty members who continued offering their services to students were less concerned with the welfare of students than those who withdrew them.

No administration is perfect. Every administration needs to be watched, interrogated, and if necessary resisted. But during my twenty-seven years here I have never been pressured from above to do anything that went against my professional conscience, nor has it ever been intimidated to me that I should feel grateful for such monies as have been paid to me. I find it ironical that it should be fellow academics who are now claiming both a moral and a financial hegemony over me — and that "academics" should be for them a term of contempt.

John Fraser,
Dept. of English

Letter 'Ludicrous'

To the Editors:

This is in response to the vindictive letter by some of the striking faculty (Cross, Gamberg, Laidlaw, Kamra et al.) which appeared in the Dec. 8 Gazette. They sardonically suggest that non-striking faculty members should forgo the salary raise the DFA "won" and donate the money instead to a scholarship

fund. The letter also jeers at these faculty members' altruism and high principles.

I find this a shockingly unwarranted attack on those faculty who with much soul-searching followed their conscience even though it was distasteful and offensive to them to cross a picket line. It is also ludicrous in light of the tactics and questionable conduct of the DFA. The obvious point which was completely missed was that binding arbitration, which was rejected by the DFA almost out of hand (because, among other reasons, it would have taken too long: 3 weeks. The strike was 2½ weeks), may well have achieved as high or perhaps a higher salary increase as that attained by you "Soldiers of Justice" in the DFA and with *unspeakably* less hardship for everyone concerned. While many strikers continuously argued that the strike was "for the good of the students" (cough, cough), this became increasingly harder to believe when such offers as binding arbitration were dismissed without much consideration.

You accuse non-striking faculty of "disregarding the public consequences of their actions". Perhaps these teachers merely felt that the likely consequences would be fewer new faculty appointments, greater workload, poorer faculty: student ratios, less funds for teaching supplies, higher student tuitions, not to mention a probable drop in public esteem for professors (who used to be often considered rational and reasonable citizens) — a burden they felt was too great to bear for an increase in salary. And yes, many felt it unfair to offer up the students as sacrificial lambs for their own problems.

Undoubtedly, there were some faculty members who went on strike for higher moral reasons then some who continued to teach. However, any credibility or belief in your higher ideals I and others may have had was severely compromised by this vicious and callous letter. The "respect and forbearance" you flatter yourselves with graciously showing to your poor misguided idealist col-

legues who chose to teach, was difficult to find. In fact, I confess my baser emotions lead me to wonder why you are teaching at all when filled with such an inability to tolerate a respected colleague's (or student's) point of view. Universities have long been regarded as centres where free thinkers and idealists can find refuge. Sadly, this no longer seems the case. Instead, striking faculty (who signed this letter) have been reduced to sneering and mocking, tearing at those personal values which their fellow workers hold to be an essential part of their moral integrity and self-respect. (Incidentally, your words of non-striking among the students rings remarkable similar to how totalitarian regimes politely refer to dissension, and is in fact, merely voicing a different point of view.)

So, don't be too quick to congratulate yourselves, standing there with bloody sword after having vanquished the Evil Forces, for some people don't have the thirst for blood and felt that the sacrificial lambs that were required were too numerous to warrant a battle. Your letter, meant to commend yourselves for your tolerance and reasonableness, has mightily backfired. May your strike in the long run not do he same.

Sincerely,
Linda Weigart
(Grad. Student)

Students the big losers

Dear DFA,

Previous to the recent faculty strike at Dalhousie University, I heard with sympathetic ears the concerns of several DFA members, namely those of my professors. As I am studying to be an educator, I supported their efforts to obtain smaller classes with better professor-student ratios. During the strike I refused to cross picket lines with the rea-

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Opinion

by Chantal Boudreau

In the United States, sixty-four million animals per year are heartlessly slaughtered for the sake of research. Canadian figures are comparable in view of population, with an overwhelming number of animals being butchered for medical research, the testing of pharmaceuticals and, the most controversial, the testing of cosmetics. Such unproductive testing is extremely cruel to attentive and feeling creatures, and is entirely unnecessary.

Avon, a large producer of cosmetics, has been known for thoughtlessly conducting painful and blinding eye make-up tests, where the make-up is applied directly to the rabbits' eyes. Avon has massacred thousands of guinea pigs and rats during acute-toxicity. These unfortunate animals are not even spared from suffering through the usage of

pain-killers. There are no laws in existence requiring researchers to administer these drugs, and due to the fact that they would simply add to the cost of production, they are not used. What gives humans the right to cause such hurt and torment to other species for our own selfish wants?

Certain ignorant people use the argument that animals cannot think and exist principally for human service. In several experiments, however, apes have proven that they are capable of learning the use of sign language for the formation of basic sentences. Moreover, dolphins and whales have also demonstrated intelligence, being easily trained to aid humans in underwater projects. Many other animals also have developed complex societies within their species. And even if animals are unable to reason, that does not make them unsusceptive to pain and discomfort.

Consequently, animal experiments to test cosmetics have

proven to be unnecessary. The Body Shop, a British-owned retail franchise that markets skin and hair-care products, has more than sixty stores in Canada. None of their chain's wide-spread goods are tested on animals, and their stores are all the more successful. Seeing that other manufacturers even find reason to test their cosmetics leaves doubt at the amount of trust they place in the safety of their own products.

There is no denying that stricter law should be legislated limiting cosmetics experimentation involving animals, if not banning it all together. Imagine yourself in the place of a lab rabbit, locked in at the neck, your eyes being coated in burning corrosive chemicals. None of us would dare even think of enduring such torture, and to prevent it from reoccurring with lab animals, we must lobby our M.P.'s to work towards the creation of a law protecting them. Just think of the many lives you'll be saving.

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Higher education, lower priority

by Erin Goodman
Canadian University Press

November at Dalhousie University in Halifax. An 18-day old faculty strike over monetary issues empties the campus and splits opinion. Fingers are pointed, blame is shifted.

Students resent their profs for "bumming out on them". Faculty resents administration. The administration points to systematic government underfunding of post-secondary education at a provincial level and pleads an inability to pay. The government says Dalhousie gets enough money and won't get another cent.

The strike only ends when the provincial government steps in to appoint an "Industrial Enquiry Commission". This is a surprise to students who have been told for weeks by faculty and administration that contract negotiations involve three steps; negotiation, conciliation and binding arbitration. Before now, the government has gone out of its way to avoid having any kind of connection to the strike.

Negotiations were carried on for months, since the faculty contract expired in June. They broke down. Conciliation is the next step, when the government reaches a helping hand to both parties by appointing a mediator. Conciliation produces nothing. A strike vote is called, and passes with a significant majority. Now the situation calls for binding arbitration, a process which is implemented when the sides can't agree on anything and an impartial panel is appointed to come up with a solution. Arbitration fails. Apparently nobody can be held accountable for Dalhousie's desperate financial situation. What now?

Students wait for administration to make an offer that faculty can accept. And then, something new. An Industrial Inquiry Com-

mission, appointed through the provincial department of labour, a message to faculty, administration, students and impartial taxpayers that The Government Has Stepped In. A step back from arbitration or a "more active form of mediation", which will air the grievances of both parties publicly before a settlement is reached.

Suddenly, a dispute which has dragged on for weeks is resolved over a weekend of negotiation. It was all over with little shouting. And the university community lived happily ever after.

The situation at Dalhousie opened the eyes of many students. Suddenly, it became clear that paying the highest tuition fees in Canada does not guarantee quality of education. That's an understatement. In fact, it became clear that nothing, or nobody, will guarantee quality of education in Nova Scotia; least of all the body which is entrusted to the task.

Many students in eastern Canada have never heard of the Maritime Provinces Higher Education Commission, based in Fredericton, New Brunswick. This is the body entrusted to the task of preparing estimates on the costs of running post-secondary education in the maritime region, and making impartial requests to the provincial governments for subsidies on behalf of the institutions.

Every year since 1977, this group of government appointees has approached the governments of PEI, New Brunswick and Nova Scotia with funding recommendations to maintain the quality of PSE in the maritimes.

The recommendations may or may not be accepted by the respective governments. In either instance, the MPHEC is handed back an approved figure, which will be split among the 21 institutions under its jurisdiction by means of a "funding formula".

During the strike at Dalhousie, President Howard Clark pointed

a finger of blame at the MPHEC, citing inequities of the funding formula as a contributing factor to the financial crisis at his institution.

Meanwhile, student organizations charge that the existence of the MPHEC matters little to students on campuses throughout the maritimes. Until this year the presence of students on the 19-member board was denied. Now, two student appointees take part in the processings, forcing critics to re-examine past perceptions of the MPHEC.

history

Per capita, there are more degree-granting institutions in the Atlantic Provinces than anywhere else in Canada, 21 in all, with about 28,000 students from a population of less than a million.

Until 1967, the federal government financed PSE by providing a direct per capita subsidy to the provinces, and the provinces divided up the money among the institutions on the basis of enrollment. In 1967, the Atlantic provinces were given the option of continuing a per capita arrangement, or entering into a 50-50 matching grants system with the federal government. Nova Scotia was the only province to opt for the matching system.

Although federal funding reduced some of the provincial burden for direct funding, the provincial higher education committees were able to assume more control in the decision-making process, as the provinces moved toward non-sectarian, public education, the institutions, meanwhile, remained autonomous entities. The institutions, meanwhile, remained autonomous entities, ultimately responsible through their charters to the legislatures of each province.

A regional approach to PSE began in 1964 with the formation of the Atlantic Association of Universities (AAU). The AAU began as a voluntary association among the presidents of a number of Atlantic institutions and had as its stated purpose "to assist the co-ordination of higher education, to ensure high academic standards in a period of rising costs and to avoid unnecessary duplication of faculties and courses of study".

The AAU soon favoured the idea of regional body with government sanction to deal with all aspects of common concern to the institutions and governments. By 1971, the maritime premier recognized that the regional overlap of PSE demanded consistent

attention, and solidified their cooperation with the creation of the Council of Maritime Premiers (CMP).

As Jeff Holmes, executive director of the AAU, stated, "The decision to launch the MPHEC was made by the premiers in the euphoria of their first meeting... the announcement took the Maritime premiers by surprise and created some consternation. The assumption had been that they would be consulted about the timing of such a move and the terms of reference of the commission."

The MPHEC was born.

growth

The 70s saw a rapid growth in PSE, in terms of enrollment, physical expansion and government funding. The need for a regional coordinating body was pressing, and after months of delay, the MPHEC finally came together in 1974.

The idea was originally presented with much opposition; the provinces could not agree on a chairperson, the Nova Scotia education minister publicly opposed losing direct provincial control of post-secondary policy making, and the N.B. Acadian population feared the loss of their culture in the larger populace.

The fact that Nova Scotia did not whole-heartedly endorse the concept of regional decision-

The total figure is passed to regional provincial treasury boards which decide to either accept or reject the proposal — in case of rejection the government will produce a lower figure and pass it back to the MPHEC. The commission will take the preferred subsidy and allocate a certain amount to each institution through a formula based on enrollment and other factors.

The process seems fair. The commission members are in an admirable position to assess the development of PSE in the entire region. When the funding recommendations are accepted the commission commended; when the recommendations are rejected they are in no way accountable for the subsequent drop in the quality of PSE.

change

The fact that the governments ignored students' demands for representation on the commission for ten years could be indicative of hidden agenda. Royden Trainor is one of two students who were invited to participate in the MPHEC as representatives of the public-at-large this year. The Dalhousie first-year law student says that part of the incentive for having no previous student representation on the board may stem from the fact that "you couldn't trust students to toe the provincial party line".

From now on Nova Scotia will take care of its own house, thank you.

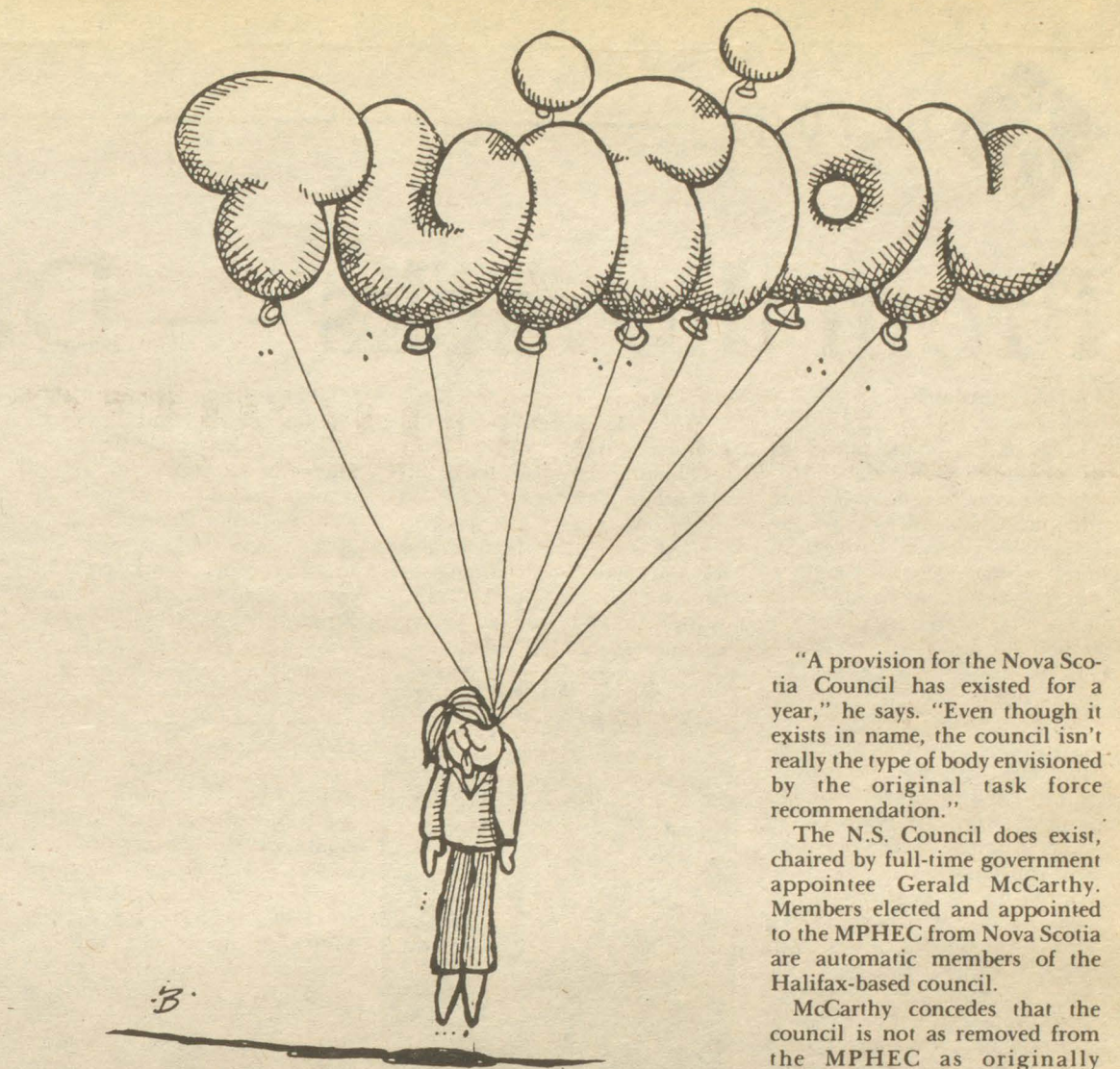
making in the past is reflected by current policies designed to reduce involvement in the MPHEC. But we'll come back to that.

The original MPHEC was set up with fifteen members; five elected through the AAU, five bureaucrats and five members-at-large appointed by the maritime premiers.

The process established then is similar to the one carried on today. The commission receives a budget and five-year spending projections from each institution, decides on an arbitrary figure that represents the projected government cost of financing PSE for the year in question.

"The MPHEC has always been plagued to some extent with political power questions," he says, "like who's controlling the MPHEC?". He adds, "What the governments wanted, the governments appointed, whether or not the MPHEC wanted students on the board made no difference."

Now that there are students on the board, MPHEC members seem happy with the addition. Jane Arnold is a business student at the University of New Brunswick in Fredericton. A long-time student activist, she was invited to sit on the board for one year. She says she was impressed with the council. "It's dealings are very professional," she says.



nova scotia

The creation of a separate Nova Scotia Council of Higher Education was an indication that the MPHEC did not adequately serve the interests of the government of Nova Scotia. Complaints of the Nova Scotia government's consistent failure to meet the funding recommendations of the MPHEC were becoming an irritation and an embarrassment.

In 1984, all of the Maritime provinces approved a 6.2% increase in funding. The commission had originally called for an 8.4% increase for PEI, an 8.1% increase for New Brunswick, and a 9.2% increase for Nova Scotia. Nova Scotia falls the shortest of the recommendation, but at least the provinces were united in their rejection of adequate funding levels for PSE.

After 1984, Nova Scotia Premier John Buchanan finds himself pretty much alone in his severe underfunding of provincial post-secondary institutions. The following year, PEI meets the MPHEC recommendation, NB falls only 2% beneath it, and NS drops 1% beneath the funding recommendation.

In 1986-87, Nova Scotia falls a full 3% beneath the recommendation. Next year, New Brunswick actually surpasses the MPHEC recommendation while Nova Scotia falls 1.3% short of it. And this year, both NB and PEI met the recommendations, while Nova Scotia's increase of 6% was approximately 2% less than that recommended.

The creation of the Nova Scotia Council on Higher Education sent out a clear message to the critics — from now on Nova Scotia will take care of its own house, thank you.

But the wheels of bureaucracy turn slowly. Although Larry Durling, former chair of the MPHEC, recalls his initial expectation of a "shakeup" after the Royal Commission Report was published, it never materialized.

"A provision for the Nova Scotia Council has existed for a year," he says. "Even though it exists in name, the council isn't really the type of body envisioned by the original task force recommendation."

The N.S. Council does exist, chaired by full-time government appointee Gerald McCarthy. Members elected and appointed to the MPHEC from Nova Scotia are automatic members of the Halifax-based council.

McCarthy concedes that the council is not as removed from the MPHEC as originally intended by the Royal Commission Report, nor does it have executive powers over university affairs. Says McCarthy, "The Premier, I believe, has made it abundantly clear that it is not the intention of the council to weaken the MPHEC."

McCarthy can't make any predictions for the future direction of the council, saying, "We haven't yet come to any specific conclusions." Meanwhile, Nova Scotia's position on the MPHEC has been strengthened. In 1987 a decision was made to increase the size of the commission by four members, providing three additional members from Nova Scotia and one from New Brunswick.

future

A new report from the Association of Atlantic Universities (AAU), points out some frightening facts.

In the past decade, Nova Scotia institutions have suffered a 20 per cent decline in government funding. Meanwhile, full-time enrollment at Maritime universities has increased by 37 per cent.

Despite this sharp decline in government support for post-secondary institutions, provincial support for schools and hospitals has continued to rise. (45 per cent for hospitals since 1979-80, 24 per cent for public schools when expressed in constant dollars on a per student basis). Who will teach in the schools and work within the health professions as our universities continue to decline?

These statistics are a clear indication of the comparatively low priority that Maritime governments have attached to providing adequate levels of support to post-secondary education. The faculty strike at Dalhousie is a clear indication of Premier John Buchanan's unwillingness to keep the "flagship of the Maritimes" afloat by accepting the funding recommendations of the MPHEC.

Who will stem the tide?



Roland Thornhill and Premier John Buchanan. Two Nova Scotia big wigs deep in thought. What are they thinking of? Obviously not Post Secondary Education.

Photo: Russ Adams

From the racks — Dak's tracks

by Dak Jiordani

The profits in the music biz always climb during the Christmas season, mainly because albums, CD's and cassettes are respectable gifts, and fairly cheap ones at that. Here's a rundown (with ratings from one to ten) on a few tapes I received over the holidays:

Level 42 — Staring at the Sun — Polygram

Although the breakup rumours proved untrue, Level 42 bassist Mark King and keyboardist Mike Lindup have replaced brothers Phil and Boon Gould with drummer Gary Husband and guitarist Alan Murphy. Unfortunately, even having ex-member Boon sharing writing credits on several songs with Mark still wasn't enough for the band to repeat the quality that was featured on their *World Machine* LP. This album is not a disaster but it is far from a masterpiece. Aside from the title track and the first single "Heaven In My Hands", the bulk of the songs are of average quality. Simply put, if you are a Level 42 fan, you should enjoy the album. If not, well, it makes for good background music at a Tupperware

party. Rating: 6

Chris De Burgh — Flying Colours — A&M

After the mega-success of his last album *Into the Light*, you might figure that Chris was on a roll. After all, he has been more or less improving at a constant rate since his first LP *Spanish Train*. With the release of *Flying Colours* Chris has set a new



Level 42: New Music for Tupperware Parties

standard in Pop Vocal Elevator Music (sure to be a new category at the Grammy and Juno awards). This album has abso-

lutely nothing controversial, exciting or even erotically romantic. Obviously geared for maximum AM radio play, the record wouldn't offend anyone even if it were cranked to 90 decibels. Most of the tracks could be successful singles if properly marketed, but compared to *Crusader* or *Eastern Wind*, this is an artistic dud. Sorry, Chris, but I think a family has mellowed you too much. Rating: 5.

Pink Floyd — Delicate Sound of Thunder — CBS

While not the greatest live album I have ever heard, it is certainly one of the best. The sound quality is excellent, the presentation is top notch and the music selection represents Pink Floyd at its best. Even though Roger Waters is no longer with the band, his presence is felt but not to excess. I have to admit that Roger wrote and sung most of Floyd's best tunes, but he was not the only songwriter in the group. David Gilmour is no slouch in either department and he carries on the Floydian tradition of quality quite admirably. Exceptionally good performances include "On The Turning Away", "Us & Them", "Money", "Comfortably Numb", and "Run Like Hell". As this album should be a fantastic success, a video of the concert tour is no doubt looming in the future. Beware, Floyd fans, your wallet could be drained of megabucks if the video is as good as the album. Rating: 9

Kylie Minogue — Kylie — WEA

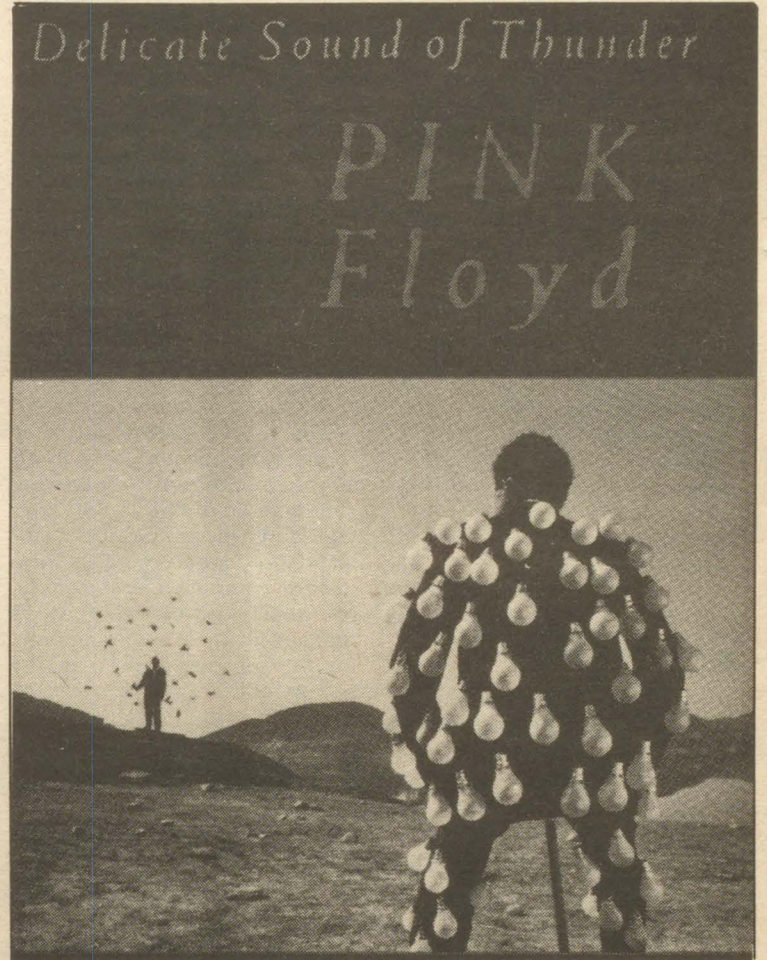
Dance music. Nouveau disco. Computer tunes. Whatever ya wanna call it, still boils down to snap, crackle, pop breakfast cereal music: it's light and snappy, it goes down easy and is just as easily forgotten. However, like breakfast cereal, disposable music of the beatbox type does have value, little though it may be. It's great for dancing, aerobics & AM radio play.

Other than the number one singles, which are played every 30 minutes for at least three or four weeks, most sequenced dance music can be ignored after just

one listen. However, 20 year old Kylie has at least made an effort on her first album to generate some curiosity. The effort must have been enough because one spin should be sufficient to reveal

Dire Straits — Money For Nothing — Polygram

A not-too-bad greatest hits package that should have included "Industrial Disease". Collected from six albums, this supposedly



Pink Floyd: Sorry, no cover versions of "You Light Up My Life" on this album.

that aside from the smash remake "Loco-motion", "I Should Be So Lucky" and "Got To Be Certain" are both heavy duty singles, but hits do not an album make, nor iron bars a cage'. Oh well, to be fair I should say that she has a dynamic voice and that musical integrity simply is not one of her strong suits. Big deal. The same can be said about most any pop/rock performer. Buy the album if you need to lose weight or you moonlight at a disco. Rating: 4.5

Tiffany — Hold an Old Friend's Hand — MCA

See above. Rating: 4

Bon Jovi — New Jersey — Polygram

Heavy pop/metal version of above. Rating: 3

is Dire Straits at its best, which suits me fine since I don't own any of their previous albums. Other than that, what can I say? Rating: ? (what can you give a strait compilation?)

There you have it. Dak's Tracks for the Post-Christmas Racks. For comparison, here are a few other albums that I hold in high regard: **Pink Floyd — The Wall** — 10; **Soundtrack — Heavy Metal** — 10; **Soundtrack — Star Wars** — 10; **Fleetwood Mac — Rumours** — 9; **Pink Floyd — The Final Cut** — 9.5; **Heart — Dreamboat Annie** — 9; **Meatloaf — Bat Out Of Hell** — 9; **Spoons — Arias & Symphonies** — 8.5; **The Alan Parsons Project — I, Robot** — 8.5; and **Supertramp — Paris** — 9.

MONDAY MOVIES

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Lesson 1: creative use of white space

join da gazette

Don't believe the hype. . .

1989: The year of the Orange Crush

by Andrew M. Duke

New Order have succumbed to a heavy bassline, Balaeric Beat, and sheep on the "Fine Time" single from their latest LP (PolyGram). *The Best of The Art of Noise*, featuring their remake of Prince's "Kiss" with Tom Jones on vocals, along with the new albums from Siouxsie and the Banshees and the Cocteau Twins are also available on PolyGram this month. *Peepshow*, the Banshees' LP, is a concept project of sorts with each track representing a situation in which some sort of invasion of privacy, observation, or onlooking is occurring. The Twins' offering, *Blue Bell Knoll*, is a warm bath of sound — soothing, understated guitar paired with vocals that can be aching, ethereal or bright to suit the occasion. Both are solid, recom-



R.E.M. does the classic 'Poets-in-the-mist' pose

mended releases. If you like R.E.M. you probably already have a copy of their *Green* LP (it's actually orange) and know how good it is. With the move to WEA nothing has been sacrificed, and though Stipe's vocals can now be heard,

they still manage to elude interpretation. "Pop Song 89" and others will make this the year R.E.M. goes major-league as *Green* has strength and longevity written all over it. Ministry's move to WEA brings the *Land of Rape and Honey* LP, one full of surprises. Half is almost hardcore with hard-driving rhythms and guitar, while the rest shows a heavier-than-usual side of the band.

Paul Barker of Ministry found time to record the "Idiot" 12" for Wax Trax Records under the

name Lead Into Gold. Very aggressive, but still ready for progressive dancefloors. I'll be playing it. Hopefully more is forthcoming from Barker. The Young Gods release their "L'Amourir" (a combination of *amour* and *mourir*)/"Pas Mal" single as Pailhead unveils a 4-track EP entitled *Trait*. This and the long-awaited KMFDM LP (a must-listen) are logging a lot of time on my turn-table. These and other Wax Trax releases are available at better record stores in the area.

MY NAVEL PALM

My navel cord was enshrined among your roots.
You are the landmark of my citizenship,
The most loved palm tree.
I watch your growth with the same thrill I watch the dusty road when Mama should be nearing home from the market.
I trim your palms to keep you slim.
You are my shadow.

When you ripe, I climb the steps of your rains and sever the cluster of your fruit,
as carefully as my navel cord was cut.
At home, I marvel at your redness,
Then roast your round seedlings.
Eyes closed, I bite into your succulence,
Uniting shadow and body.

— Ugochukwu Egbuziem

EKWEJI¹

The message from the gong and the "ekwe"² has reached the household.
It is still dark outside.
Mother dear gently woke her older children, the younger ones still sleep.
The older children run and chant to the village stream.
Ezeji, Nwokeji and Osuji select the best of their yam harvests.
Their wives clean the big black pots that keep life going.
Water, meat, fish, shrimps, spices, palm oil and the yams are fed into the pots in a sequence only mothers know.

Visitors come from far and near.
Masquerades, dancers, musicians, poets, wrestlers and the spectators crowd into the village square.
The ancestors are solemnly remembered in libations and implored to take part in the Ekweji and to protect their offsprings, the village, its visitors and well-wishers.

It has started; dancing and singing to the drums, ekwe, gongs and bangles.
Coins exchange hands, most pressed on the foreheads.
The women and maidens dance around circles, while the men break the ground with their feet.

Never, never stop till sweat soaks the earth.
Then it's time to eat, time to exchange stories, time to say farewell, till the night owl says it's time to stop.

— Ugochukwu Egbuziem

1. Ekweji is a festival held annually in the Igbo speaking areas of Nigeria to herald a new yam eating season. This usually occurs in September of each year.
2. Ekwe is a wooden musical instrument, it varies in size from about two feet to about ten feet.

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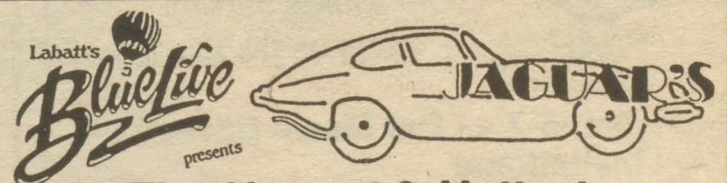
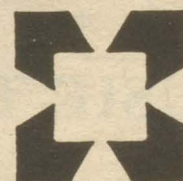
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Good lineup at men's basketball tournament

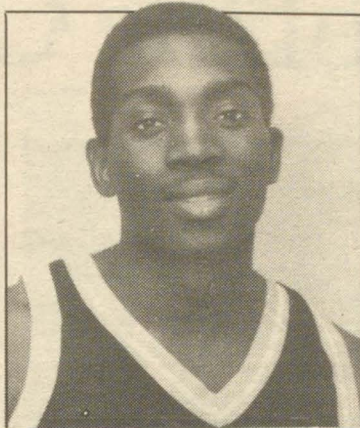
by Brian Lennox

This weekend the Dalhousie men's basketball team will be hosting an invitational tournament. Six teams will be competing, teams from south of the border, St. Francis University, a division one team from New York City and Maine-Machias will be the two U.S. teams in the tournament. The host Tigers, Concordia University, the University of Prince Edward Island Panthers, and the Saint Mary's Huskies will also be part of the six team tournament. Three exhibition games will be held as well. Acadia Axeman will play two games while an all-star team representing the Nova Scotia senior league will play one exhibition game.

Twelve games are scheduled that will provide basketball fans with plenty of action. The St.

Francis Terriers should provide the toughest competition. The Terriers play in the Northeast conference of the National Collegiate Athletic Association. The Terriers have three players to especially watch for. Darwin Purdie, a 6-6 forward who averaged 16.8 ppg. and 7.4 rpg. is the Terriers' main threat. They also have Juan Jorge, who averaged 11.6 ppg. and point guard Rodney Henry, who averaged 6.4 ppg. last year. Maine-Machias should also provide some tough competition. They are one of the two small college teams in Maine.

UPEI is always an exciting team to watch as they have one of the country's best players in Peter Gordon who is averaging over 20 ppg. Forward Mark Roberts is only 6-2 but can rebound with any forward in Canada. In the



Andrew Merritt

backcourt the Panthers have two of the best shooters in the country. Boston native Curtis Brown is their top scorer early in the season and Alonzo Wright is their three point specialist.

Concordia is usually one of the strongest teams from Quebec. They will be in the same group as the Dalhousie Tigers. The Stingers were in the 1987 CIAU tournament and a threat to make the 1989 tournament.

The Saint Mary's Huskies who have been struggling early in season will be looking to get back on the winning track in the second semester. Brian Thompson, a second year forward and Dean Durnford will lead the Huskies up front. In the backcourt John MacIntosh will be expected to give the young Huskies some much needed experience. The Huskies lost four starters from last year's team so this year looks to be a rebuilding year.

The Tigers played in the St. Aberdeen tournament last week and have a heavy schedule in the

month of January. The Tigers are led by Willem Verbeek, a second all conference selection from last year. Verbeek is averaging 16 ppg and is one of the best small forwards in the Atlantic conference. Third year guard Andrew Merritt is averaging over 20 ppg and has one of the best shooting percentages in the nation. Merritt is probably one of the most versatile players in the nation as he can play three positions for the Tigers if they need it.

This will be the last tournament before the conference schedule begins and teams will be looking to find the right combinations for the rest of the season. Canadian tournaments rarely have a division one team from the U.S, so fans should get out this weekend and watch some exciting basketball.

continued from page 5

soning that if students did not show support for the DFA, the strike would be unnecessarily prolonged. I marched for its settlement, and shouted slogans at the president's house. I even bought a strike t-shirt.

I did all of this with confidence in those whom I supported. DFA, you should have been actors, not educators. I truly believed in you.

With the administration refusing to take the lead and make a decision binding on all faculties affected concerning the make-up of lost time, professors are now showing us, the student body, that the real issue in the strike was not quality of education but quantity of salary. Students in all faculties are suffering because of lack of adequate time to complete course work due to two weeks of

lost time.

The students are the big losers all around; we will not be compensated for our tuition, rent, or other costs incurred during the strike by the DFA, and neither will we receive adequate time to complete our term.

Thank you, DFA. You have given me memories of my years at Dalhousie that I will never forget.
Bonnie Bourgeois
4th yr. BPE/BE

Bigot city

To the Editors:

Once again intolerance shows its ugly head. This time in the shape of Tom "Keegstra" Chauvin who this week decided to crawl out from under his rock. Mr. Chauvin's deductions are so out of touch he would have been right at home if he had lived decades ago.

The purpose of the multicultural act and the entrenchment of bilingualism is to unite this country. Those acts are to protect minorities from idiots like Chauvin, Getty and company. Nobody is shoving French down anybody's throat, so don't worry Tom, you have the right to remain in your state of blissful ignorance.

P.S. intolerance, bigotry and J.C. should never be used in the same sentence, it's bad manners!!
—Yves Jubinville

The prez replies

Dear Dr Clarke:

Your letter of November 29 naturally dismays and distresses me. Difficult circumstances unquestionably cause many of us to respond in ways which we subsequently regret, and I am sure that many things have been done and said over the past few weeks that would not have occurred under happier circumstances.

You mention three events which have caused you some outrage. The first, attributed by you to me so I presume that you were not present on the occasion I made the remark, was in relation to a "one lecture precis" comment. As I recall, I was making the point that the most appropriate adjustments in courses, following the strike, would have to be determined by faculty members in consultation with students. I believe I said that it might, for example, take the form of a "one lecture precis" combined with reference to appropriate reading material, or a variety of other options. There is a great variety of courses, of course content, and of teaching approaches — in at least some cases, a one lecture precis plus guided reading would be perfectly appropriate, although obviously not so in many others. I can only conclude that you heard my comment quoted out of context, otherwise I do not understand how you feel it outweighs all of my other comments and actions over the past two years with regard to the

importance of teaching.

Secondly, you refer to a comment of Dean Betts. Since I am not aware of the comment, or of the context in which it was offered, it would be inappropriate for me to discuss it further.

Thirdly, while I would much prefer for us to put behind the recent strike and various events that occurred during it, the fact that you have circulated your letter so widely gives me little option but to reply in some detail.



At no point in these negotiations did the Board insist that there be no make-up classes. The Board *did* insist that there be no pay for those on strike for the period of the strike, based on the view that the agreement between the Board and DFA provides the basis for a 12-month contract (including one month vacation) with DFA faculty members, and that there is ample room for adjustments within the 11 month period for the time lost due to the strike to be made up. It was then the DFA which insisted that the Board agree that the academic schedule *not* be changed.

I should also point out that up until the very last weekend of mediation (ie. November 20-22) the Board team, at my urging, agreed for a salary adjustment of \$1000 for each member of the Alumni Association Award. The DFA insistently refused to accept this, and the same had ultimately to be dropped because of the DFA opposition, in order to reach any agreement.

It seems to me that not all of the relevant information may have been available to you at the time you wrote to me. I very much hope that you will reconsider your request, since it is in fact based on a serious misunderstanding of my own position and that of the Board, I would be happy to discuss the matter

further with you if that would be helpful.

Yours sincerely,
Howard C. Clark
President and Vice-Chancellor

Pollution Hotline

Dear Editors:

Readers of this newspaper will be well aware that, increasingly, Nova Scotians are becoming more concerned about the deteriorating quality of the environment. In 1988, the impact of the pulp and paper industry upon the forest ecosystem, and upon the air, freshwater and marine environments, generated considerable discussion and controversy. A question which, apparently, crossed a number of people's minds, was how does a person start to look into, or research, environmental issues relating to the pulp and paper industry?

In response to this concern, a three page information sheet, *Pulp and Paper Mill Pollution: Some Information Sources For Nova Scotians*, compiled from the perspective that "Industry must be pollution free, ecologically sustainable, accountable to the local community and required for the long term benefit of society" is now available. This information sheet basically addresses how to get started on research and how to obtain the resources which are available. The topics covered are "Recommended Publications", "Federal Government Information", "National Research Council of Canada Information", "Canadian Environmental Protection Act", "Industry Information", "Journals" and "Ottawa Pesticide Hot Line". The information was compiled by the research group *Green Web*. It is free, and can be obtained by sending a stamped, self-addressed envelope to the undersigned.

Sincerely,
David Orton
R.R. 3 Salt Springs
Pictou County, Nova Scotia
B0K 1P0

DALHOUSIE TIGERS



The Dalhousie Tigers invite you to witness some of the best action on the East Coast.

Jan. 5-7 — Dal Men's Basketball Invitational

Jan. 10 — Women's Volleyball exhibition TBA

Jan. 13 — Men's Volleyball UNB at Dal 8:00pm

Jan. 14 — Men's Volleyball UNB at Dal 2:00pm

Jan. 14 — Hockey UDM at Dal 7:30pm

FOLLOW THE TIGERS!

Calendar

Friday 6

Tiger tracks — The Dalhousie invitational meet for men's basketball will take place from today to Thursday. For more information call 424-3372.

Wormwood's — *A World Apart* will be playing at Wormwood's Dog and Monkey Cinema at 7pm only, from Jan 6th until the 12th. The film tells the story of a 13 year old girl whose parents, as part of African National Congress in South Africa, become the first whites to be taken under the detention act. *Big Time* will be playing at 9:15 pm only, from Jan 6th til the 12th. The film portrays singer, songwriter, actor, raconteur Tom Waits. *Mondo New York* will be playing at midnight Friday and Saturday night and at 2pm Sunday. The film gives you a time capsule of New York's best onstage outrage.

NFB — The National Film Board at 1571 Argyle Street will be presenting the *Reels of Royalty* a festival of 3 films dealing with royalty to commemorate Epiphany.

Sunday 8

Meeting — The first meeting for the International Women's Day Organizing Committee will take place at 2pm in Veith House, 3115 Veith St. For more information, call Nancy at 422-3977.

Monday 9

Video — The Nova Scotia Satsang Society will be featuring the video tape *The Journey Home* at 7:30pm at the Nova Scotia Archives, 6016 University Avenue. If you are interested to know more about Eckankar, the ancient science of soul travel, you are invited to attend this free evening of film and talking. For more information please call 464-1333.



Le Cafe Francais — The French Cafe will re-open and its hours will be 11:30am to 2:30pm and will serve beer, wine, and sandwiches. Students interested in jobs waiting on tables may leave their names with the secretary of the French Department at 1315 LeMarchant St.

Dal Photo — There will be a meeting for Dal Photo for all present prospective members at 4pm in room 318 of the Dal SUB.

Tuesday 10

Blood Door Clinic — There will be a blood donor clinic from 9am to 11:30pm and from 1pm to 3:30pm on the 2nd floor lounge of the Sir Charles Tupper Medical Building on the Dalhousie Campus.

Film — *Un Chien Andalou*, *Entracte* and *Taris* will be shown 12:30 and 8pm in the Dalhousie Arts Gallery as part of the Surrealism in Europe film series.

Wednesday 11

In the Flesh — The movie *Pink Floyd's The Wall* will be shown at 8pm at the McInnis Room in the Dal SUB. Tickets are \$3 at the door. This classic cult movie is based on the album of the same name and deals with the painful life of the main character.

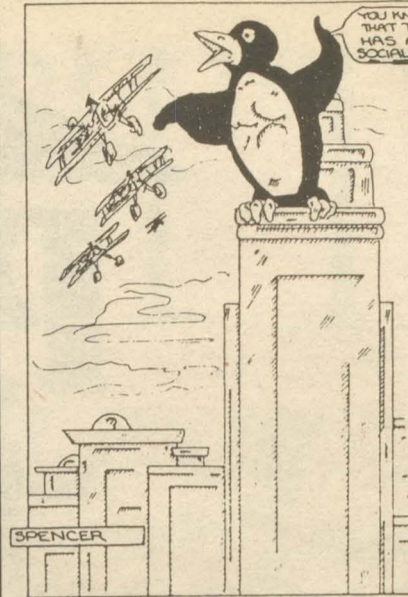
Lecture — The Department of German Studies will be hosting a public lecture by Peter Michelsen entitled *Der Wahn vergnugt: Grimmelshausen als Kalendermacher* at 8pm in the German House on LeMarchant Street.

Thursday 12

Seminar — The Dept. of Biology will be hosting a lecture by Bill Montevicchi (MUN) entitled *Sea Bird Fisheries Interactions* at 11:30am in room 332 of the Life Science Centre at Dal.

Community

Confirmation Class — Confirmation-Inquiry classes will be offered by the Anglican Chaplain this term. These classes are intended for the baptismal and confirmation candidates, for those wanting to discover more about the Anglican Church, and for those wanting to discover more about the Anglican Church, and for those desiring a "refresher" course. Classes will be arranged to accommodate as many students' schedules as possible. If you are interested, please contact Fr. Bridge at your earliest convenience: 310 SUB. Tel. 424-2287 or 455-7971.



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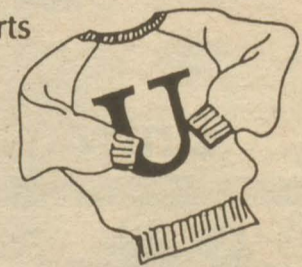
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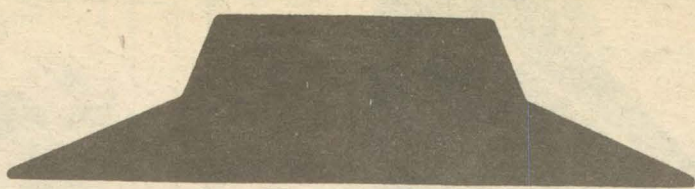


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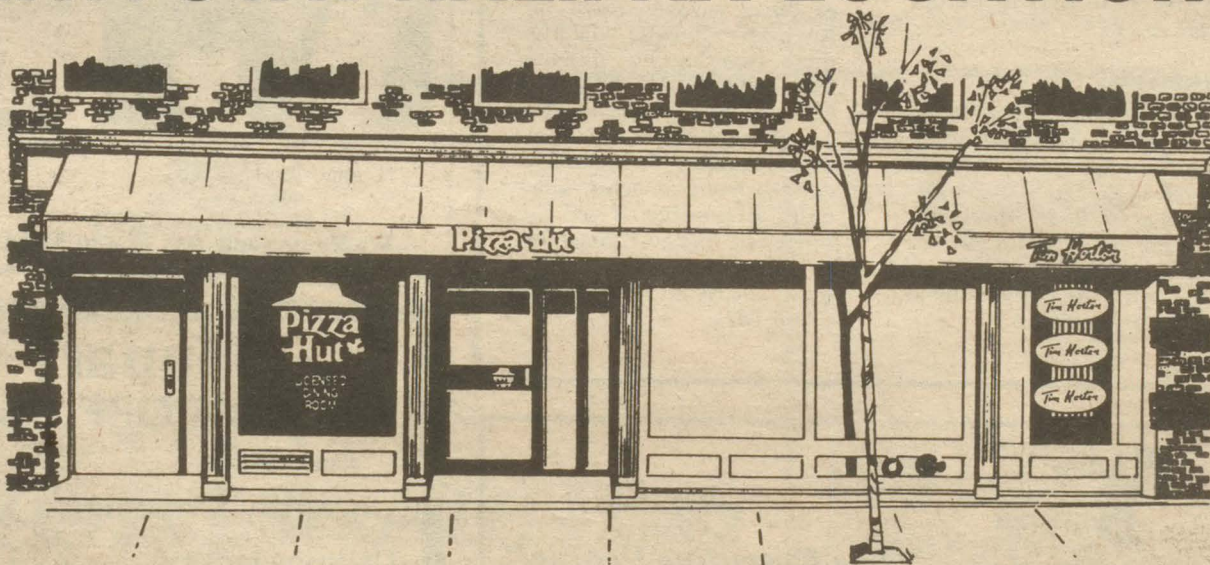
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