

NEXUS

THE STUDENTS' NEWSPAPER OF MOUNT ST. VINCENT UNIVERSITY

THE CULT OF MASCULINITY

by Frances Early, History Dept.

We set aside this week of reflection because of a need we all share to remember and to mourn the 14 women so "senselessly" murdered at the University of Montreal's Engineering School Dec. 6, 1989. We understand that we do this because we must work for fundamental change in our society.

One image that always comes to my mind--out of my imagined recreation of what I've heard about the horrific events of that winter afternoon at the Polytechnic--is the moment when Marc Lepine, dressed like Rambo and brandishing a semi-automatic weapon, entered a classroom and ordered the men and women there to separate. When this didn't happen immediately he fired a shot in the air, to the ceiling. Then it happened: the men filed out. Lepine immediately aimed and fired killing women. Then he left this classroom and moved

on. He had more "feminists" to kill. Where, I ask myself, were the men?

The initial reaction to these murders and Lepine's suicide--the "preferred reading" of the situation as put forward by the media--was that this was the work of a madman. The murders were "senseless", as everyone acknowledged. But when it came to thinking about why Lepine chose female engineering students and identified them as "a bunch of feminists" the media portrayed a divided populace, whether they were experts or the ordinary person on the street. Some insisted that the madman concept summed it all up. Others, particularly women, knew in their minds and hearts and from their life experiences as women that while Lepine was a madman, there was an insidious method to his madness. We could read the faces of women interviewed immediately after the massacre and lined along Montreal streets

during the funeral ceremonies: they were identifying with Lepine's victims. For all women in our society experience violence in their lives because they are women, whether it is being harassed, threatened, molested, battered, or raped. If they are women of color or aboriginal women it is "ordinary" for there to be "madness, murder, and mayhem" in daily life. As one African American woman, Barbara Omolade, insists: "We live terrified...how we 'gonna make it one more day, how we gonna keep on keeping on.'"

If we really stop and think, we know that frustration, anger, rage and even madness is expressed in ways that vary according to culture. "How people get mad, how that escalation from prejudice, to hate, to violence occurs, what and who is hated, and how it is expressed, is not unrelated to the world around us. When a madman uses easily available weapons and easily available

prejudices, it is not totally his problem, which will go away when he does." [Urusula Franklin, "Are We Family?" *Courage* 1, no. 7 (winter 1991): 1]

We urgently need to understand at a profound level what surrounds us in our culture, what it is that makes Marc Lepine's not only possible but probable. We must get behind the facade of our liberal, democratic society to the symbolic and structural roots of male domination, of patriarchy, of the "culture of masculinism."

My work on the gendered nature of war and the militarized society has led me to appreciate how a culture of masculinity works today to perpetuate an ideal of heroic, violent manliness. Movies, children's television, history books, the media, and boot camps idealize the death-defying, transcendent male warrior, who, like his father and his father before him, marched away to war, fought bravely and

A COMMUNITY ACT OF REMEMBRANCE

ON THE 4TH ANNIVERSARY
OF THE MURDER OF
FOURTEEN WOMEN AT
L'ECOLE POLYTECHNIQUE
DE MONTREAL, AND IN
MEMORY OF ALL WOMEN
WHO SUFFER VIOLENCE
BECAUSE THEY ARE
WOMEN.

DECEMBER 6TH, 1993
AT 12:15 PM

IN FRONT OF SETON
ACADEMIC CENTRE

(usually) returned encircled with a mystique of "masculine" experience.

This same culture of masculinity portrays women as "the other," as one scholar has
cont. on Pg 5

IN MEMORY OF...

On December 6, 1989, 14 people were killed because they were women. In an academic community, which should be open and accepting, one man became judge and jury.

On December 6, 1993, Mount Saint Vincent University will gather to honour these women. At 12:15 p.m. a Community Act of Remembrance will take place in front of Seton Academic Centre.

We will assemble to acknowledge that violence against women is a crime. It must be stopped. This is our show of solidarity in the struggle.

On Monday, November 22, Suzanne LaPlante Edward, the mother of one woman killed, said "our girls have become a symbol of all bettered women...As long as we keep this discussion quiet, it is useless."

MSVU will not be silent. Lend your voice to the community act of remembrance.

On December 6, there will be a table with resource information, as well as ribbons and roses for sale. All the money will be donated to a home for battered women in Yarmouth.

WORLD AIDS DAY

by Scott Cheverie

Marina Harris, a second-year science student and a member of the Mount AIDS Committee, has been informing students about safe sex via the use of condoms.

"One of the things we're trying to promote is safe sex," says Harris. "December 1 is World Aids Day and the theme for this year's awareness and educational programming is 'Time to Act,' which is the decision of the World Health Organization."

The art and cultural community are also acknowledging the loss of the many artists, performers and musicians to the AIDS virus. December 1 will also be called "A Day Without Art."

Harris has been speaking to students about the

incidence of HIV infection and AIDS, and about the risks to women and youth in particular. "The highest risk in the 1990's is to the 19 to 25 year-olds, particularly women," says Harris. "The virus does not understand the differences between homosexuality and heterosexuality, it will infect anyone."

In Canada, as of July 1992, Health and Welfare Canada had received reports of 6560 cases of AIDS, and so far 63 per cent, or 4112 deaths, have been reported.

Harris says, "Within the next ten years, 90 per cent of all new AIDS cases will be women."

Many people believe they cannot get the virus, but the Nova Scotia Department of Health has had over 300 documented cases of HIV, and

so far 117 of these individuals have died.

Harris says, "Women comprise the fastest growing category of possible victims, and by the year 2000, there is no doubt that there will be more women than men infected throughout the world."

Canada has just renewed its National AIDS strategy -- 211 million is to be spent on education, research, and patient care. The total cost to the Canadian tax payer is in the vicinity of \$800,000 per person ill with AIDS.

"We want to change attitudes," says Harris. "Condom machines will be installed in the bathrooms close to Vinnie's, the university pub. We expect a good response, and we will try to have these machines throughout the campus."

SISTER

Born of the earth, a child of God

Just one among family.

And you can count on me to share the load

And I will always help you.

Hold your burdens, and I will be the one

Lean on me, I am your sister.

Believe on me, I am your friend.

Lean on me, I am your sister.

Believe on me, I am your friend.

I will fold you in my arms like a white winged dove.

Shine in your soul, your spirit is crying.

Cris Williamson

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EDITORIAL

WITH DEEPEST REGRETS

During the last issue's production stages I made a very big mistake. It had nothing to do with the physical layout and production of the paper, rather it was my own behaviour that was unconscionable.

In a frantic rush to put the paper together, I was, to put it mildly, having a panic attack. Now, those of you who know me personally, realize that this is nothing out of the ordinary, and that I am usually running in full over-drive.

The problem was that in a rush to contact one of my editors I left a message on, what I thought, was their answering machine. The message was loud, obnoxious, offensive and not befitting of someone in my position of responsibility.

The machine, in fact, belonged to MANUS, and was being used by a woman, whom I will not name, but is above reproach in her efforts to help MANUS students to the best extent of her position and

abilities.

Imagine then the scenario, this woman goes to check her messages and hears a rude and frantic moron revealing his ignorance.

After having left the message, I was totally unaware that anyone other than my intended listener would have heard the message. It was not until two or three days later, that one of my Editors informed me of the fact that I had greatly offended a person who in no way deserved to be subjected to such nonsense.

Even then, I failed to realize that not everyone shared my view of events and I was genuinely surprised that anyone would take offense. However, I have some patient editors, who are also good friends, and one in particular took the time and had the patience to educate me about my bad manners.

I have always rebelled against the idea that once in a public role of responsibility, such as editor of a student

paper, I would have to give up my private identity as an average citizen.

Yet when I do wear my editor's hat there are certain criteria of behaviour that I must, and try to, adhere to. These last three months have been a learning experience for me, and I know that I have stepped on a number of toes and even feet.

So what is the point of this rambling piece. It is a public apology to a particular woman. I have not been able to contact the offended party personally, because of my schedule. Some may think that I haven't tried hard enough, and they are welcome to that opinion. If there is one thing that I have learned this year it is that you can't please all of the people, all of the time. Regardless I would like to sincerely apologise to anyone who was offended and I would like to especially say to that particular woman that I am very sorry that my behaviour was so objectionable.

STUDENT EMPOWERMENT

It has happened to us all. Trapped in a course that is taught by a professor that just does not like you. For what ever reason, there are personal conflicts between students and professors. We are all adults at this University, at least we are supposed to act like adults, and sometimes people just have basic personal differences of opinion.

Differences of opinion are good for discussion and learning, and they are the cause of some truly interesting debates. Yet what happens when things have gone too far? When the student truly feels

that the professor is not doing their job? What do students do when they feel that the professor is pushing their own political agenda on the class? When the professor is targeting individual students for the wrong reasons?

Students do have a recourse to action if they have a genuine problem. However, if you are constantly skipping classes, failing to hand in assignments, or disrupting your class by arriving late, don't be surprised if your prof is giving you a hard time, they are probably justified.

So, what can students

do if they find themselves in one of the earlier mentioned predicaments? The first step is obvious go to the prof and see if you can't work out your problems.

The obvious response to that bit of pithy advice is that if you could do so, you wouldn't have a problem, right? Not so. Some times the problem is the result of miscommunication, and the professor isn't really the monster you thought they were.

Should that attempt fail, or if you are really in fear of the professor's ability to make your time in the course pure hell, than the next step is to go to the head of your department.

Contrary to popular belief, Department Heads do NOT go running to your professor the moment after you have left the office.

They are professionals and they will guarantee your anonymity if you wish it. But you must go and see them. They do not read minds, nor will a note slipped under their door with no name on it have much of an effect. You have to stand up for yourself.

If a group of students in the class all agree on a problem appointing a spokesperson will also not work. The Department Head will want to speak with each person individually to make sure that there really is such a level of fear and discontent.

After the Department Head comes the Dean. There are different Deans, so contact the Student Council's Academic V.P. to find out who is the appropriate person to speak to.

If you feel that the hierarchy path is getting you no where, there are still two more routes. Go back to the Student Council's Academic V.P. and see what she can do to help. Her name is Rebecca Nelson and she is there to help.

The other route is the office of the Ombudsperson. Jeff Ridgeway's office can be found in the Council's offices on the fourth floor of the Rosaria Building. He is the defender of the little people and he has lots of nefarious methods help him aid you.

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TRAVEL CUTS

494-2054



NEXUS



is the student newspaper of Mount St. Vincent University. It is published by the Student Council of MSVU. It is the voice of and gateway to the student community. All submissions are welcome.

The editors reserve the right to refuse publication to any submission that is racist, sexist, homophobic, or that supports or encourages the denigration of women.

Submissions can be left in the drop-off boxes at the Manus lounge, in the Corner Store, or at our office on the fourth floor of the Rosaria Building. All submissions received will be acknowledged in print.

The opinions represented within the newspaper are not necessarily those of the Editors, the Publishers, or of the University's Administration.

NEXUS

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Class of '94 Graduation Portraits by

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- MSVU's Official Portrait Studio*

- On campus Nov. 9 & 10 in Rosaria Centre

- \$15.00 sitting fee includes taxes

- Book appointment at Student Union Office

*Choice of MSVU based on quality, service, price, and dependability
Berryhill employs two pleasant award-winning portrait photographers

THE TERM IN REVIEW

At last the end is in sight, the end of term, that is. This semester has been a hell of a learning exercise, and NEXUS staffers and volunteers have certainly paid the price in blood, sweat, tears and lost sleep.

I have always, proudly, claimed that I am not a journalist by any means, and with this my detractors will all certainly agree. Yet being in the pressure cooker that I have been in for the last three months has taught me a lot.

First, you can not please all of the people all of the time, so don't even bother trying to. In fact it seems at times like I've been making more enemies than I have friends. So I have resigned myself to simple working to fulfil my mandate and making the most out of those rare moments of praise.

Second, always consider your source. This does not just apply to journalism, but in dealing with criticism. NEXUS and the editors have come under the gun a number of times from various sources. I have noticed that there are two kinds of critics, the informed and the ignorant.

The informed are those who have made the effort to contact all sides in this insane tragi-comedy of newspapers. Some of these critics are people I know, friends, hell even my own mother a grad student at the Mount doesn't hesitate to blow holes in the paper, although she is motivated by a concern for my reputation rather than any political nonsense. Yet all of these critics have made an effort to contact as many different points of view as they could, before they criticised or attacked, and by listening to

them NEXUS can only get better.

The other group, however, are ignorant in the sense that they have only one side of the story, or that they are unaware of certain basic facts that all sides agree upon, and when told that they are un or misinformed they have not sought to rectify their situation. Some good examples of this are as follows:

FRANK Magazine, that bastion of truth and intelligence in the Maritimes claimed we had a budget of \$14 000.00. I could only wish!! Yet I don't really worry much about Frank, because it has as much credibility as the holocaust deniers and their lies.

Another ignorant critic is Mr. Tom Regan of the Daily News, yet another edifying vehicle for the conveyance of journalism. I actually spoke with Mr. Regan, (a COLUMNIST not a journalist therefore free to write what he wants, no matter how stupid it makes him look), of the Daily News, and I informed him of a few uncontested facts about the newspaper issue. Unfortunately his dog must have eaten his notes, because none of the information I gave him ever made it to print.

My last two ignorant critics I would like to mention are the two Student papers of SMU and Dalhousie, the Journal and the Gazette. Both noted for their devotion to the truth and their uncompromising principles of objectivity, they have honoured us with the mention of our name in their hallowed pages.

The Journal got the whole point of the issue wrong as they invariably do and in

Andrew Bowers' editorial he revealed to us the fact that he must have got his information fourth hand, while hiding in the University Administration's washroom eavesdropping. I mean researching, a story. The Gazette on the other hand is bound by a loyalty contract that all newspapers sign if they wish to join CUP. There for it is only to be expected, not appreciated, but expected that they would be as slanted as a church steeple when they covered the story.

So, should I worry about all of these things, get an ulcer and die of a stress induced heart attack? In the immortal words of my four year old cousin Daniel, I Don't Think So!

The staff and volunteers at this student newspaper have worked very hard this term, and I defy any one to tell me different. I have been very lucky to work with such an excellent group of individuals and I look forward to next semester with more anticipation that I realized.

As a closing I note would like to urge you the students towards the same activity that I did in my first editorial. If you have a problem with the administration, Student Council or NEXUS, stand up and shout. Preferably I would like to see something on paper, but now I realize that would be to much to ask for from the student body. Many people have written to us, both favourable and not so favourable, and I would like to thank you all for making the effort. Rest assured that those of you who have given verbal feed-back are not being ignored or devalued, and we listen to

your voices and try to respond as best we can.

So once again a great big sloppy thank you to the staff and volunteers of the paper,

who have worked so very hard, and to those of you who have shared with us your criticisms of all kinds. Happy Holidays, people.



FRIENDS DON'T LET
FRIENDS DRIVE DRUNK

WHY A HEALTH PLAN

First conceived by student associations as an aid to students to help pay for the cost of their medical expenses, the need for student health plans has increased in the past few years. Yet cutbacks in provincial and federal spending, and the recession have increased the burden that medical expenses can place on students.

Essentially a student health plan is a way for a group to share the costs associated with medical care. Every member of the student body is charged a small annual premium through their student fees. The students are then eligible for discounts on various medical expense from accidental dental damage to cheap subscriptions.

There is an opt out clause for those students who

don't want or need the health plan. Yet most students welcome and make good use of the plan.

The Mount's particular plan is in conjunction with the nationally organized plan of the Canadian Federation of Students. The exact benefits for the students at the Mount are listed below. This is not a complete or exact list, simply one to give you the student an idea of how you benefit. For a complete list, contact Student Council Offices and ask for a Health Plan brochure.

-70% off most perscription drugs.

-Complete reimbursement for the cost of most medical equipment and appliances, (i.e. crutches, braces, splints, prosthetic appliances, wheelchair rental).

-Up to \$100.00 reimbursement every 2 years for repairs and purchase of eye glasses and contact lenses.

-Tutorial benefit of up to \$15.00 per hour, for up to \$100.00 per disability, if the student is confined to hospital of home for 15 consecutive school days.

-Up to \$5000.00 benefit for accidental death (excluding death caused from eating the food from the Sacateria), and up to \$10 000.00 for dismemberment (that's one way to get your tuition paid).

As stated earlier this is neither complete or comprehensive. For more information students should got to the Student Council offices on the fourth floor of Rosaria and ask for a copy of the booklet "Benefits of Your Student Health Plan."

ATTENTION CONCERNED STUDENTS

Your External Vice-President
invites you to participate in the...

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Starting January 1994, the External Affairs Committee
will deal with student concerns such as:

- Student Housing Issues
- Financial Issues (Student Aid, Tuition Hikes, etc.)
- The Canadian Federation of Student (CFS)
- Student Union's of Nova Scotia (SUNS)

If you are interested in getting involved with these or any other issues that are relevant to student external affairs then please contact me @ 457-6123 or visit Student Union on the 4th Floor of Rosaria.

Remember,
Committee participation looks great on a resume!!!

Jeff D. Benson
External Vice-President
M.S.V.U. Student Union

LOTS'O'LETTERS

What does the Student council do for me?
Fred H. Mackenzie.

Dcar Mr. McKenzie,

Thank you for your inquiry about what Student Union does for you, as a member of the student body. Here is where your Learning and Leading contribution and Student Union fee go.

LEARNING AND LEADING

This capital campaign obligation goes as follows: \$3/credit up to a maximum of \$15, and was voted in by the student body by a majority in a 1989 referendum. The money raised through Learning and Leading is used as follows:

- 60% - Library Holdings
- 40% - Micro Computer Acquisitions

To date, almost \$200,00 has been contributed by the students.

STUDENT UNION

The Mount Saint Vincent Student Union acts as the sole representative of the entire student body attending MSVU. The aims of the Union are:

- a) to serve the needs of students
- b) to represent the students of MSVU to the University Administration, to the public, to public officials, to other centres of learning, and to other organizations
- c) to advance the cause of higher learning at MSVU
- d) to promote and assist in maintaining an academic and social environment free from prejudice, exploitation, or abuse on the basis of, but not limited to gender, race, language, religion, age, national or social status, political affiliation or belief, sexual orientation or marital status
- e) to work with the University to ensure that the policies and goals of both organizations are mutually respected.

The Student Union is officially governed by the Student Council, which is composed of up to twenty-eight positions elected from the student body at large. Each Council representative brings the concerns, opinions and suggestions from their constituency to the Council. Students are always welcome to pay us a visit, attend a Council meeting, or give us a call with questions, comments, or concerns.

STUDENT UNION FEES

To be sure, I cannot imagine the Mount without a collective

student voice. The \$10 per half credit you pay for union fees ensures representation in many varied aspects of student life:

- Orientation Week
- Student Newspaper
- Student Handbook
- Vinnie's Pub
- Bursaries
- Cornerstore
- Used Book Exchange
- Awards Banquet
- Grad Functions
- Manus Lounge
- Manus Banquet
- Societies
- Parent Care Lounge
- Yearbook
- Honoraria

Associated with these endeavors, over 100 jobs are provided to students over the school year.

In addition, your fee means membership in the Canadian Federation of Students, a 400,000 strong organization which provides a forum for lobbying government and discussing educational barriers. As well, CFS operates Travel Cuts, offers Student Saver discount cards, International Student Identification Cards (ISIC), Student Work Abroad Programme (SWAP), Canadian Programming Service (CPS) and, through Mutual Life, is the Student Health Network to which we belong. Throughout the year, CFS also runs campaigns to raise awareness about things like 3% administrative tax on student loans (I have been assured that this will be gone this year), Women's Week of Reflection, AIDS, and election readiness to name a few.

Provincially, this means membership in Students Union of Nova Scotia (SUNS). This group acts as a media contact for all students in the province and provides feedback to the government on things like the provincial bursary program, student aid, rationalization and tuition costs.

An integral part of what we do is to represent your interests on a variety of administrative committees:

- Alternative Approaches to Teaching
- Blueprint '98
- Board of Governors
- Campus Planning
- Committee on Academic Policy & Planning Finance
- General Harassment
- Green Team
- Human Resource & Policy
- Internal Reviews
- Learning & Leading
- Library Acquisitions
- Occupational Health & Safety
- Senate & Senate Exec.
- Status of Women
- Student Affairs
- Student Judiciary
- Undergrad. Curriculum
- United Way

University Budget

So, rather than think of us as an expense, think of us as a resource. In order to best address student concerns, we must work together to establish and maintain communication. I would also like to add that Student Union fees have not increased in a number of years. The current fee structure is a modest one when compared to other universities, and represents an increasingly difficult challenge to maintain the level and variety of programs we have enjoyed in the past.

Looking forward to hearing from you!

Cathy Thorpe
President,
MSVU Student Union

Mr. Editor,
The recent developments concerning the student newspaper are of great interest to me. I have attended MSVU since september of 1988, and have always been disgusted with the overall quality of journalism displayed by the Picaro. Personally, I feel that the Picaro has never reflected the concerns of the majority of students who contributed to its upkeep. It is invigorating to read the new student newspaper, Nexus. Its articles and features display a pleasant mixture of informative journalism and lighter reading.

My five years as a student at MSVU have allowed me to gradually monitor the contents of the Picaro. Although its content has not always been lacklustre, I have observed a general lack of sensitivity to the opinions of the majority of MSVU students. Certainly it is time for a student publication worth reading, for which I would be willing to pay for. Time after time my friends who attend Dal and SMU have commented on the poor quality of journalism exhibited in the Picaro, usually asking the question, "who are these people writing for?" I have never been quite able to answer my friends, but I do know it is time for a new student newspaper. MSVU students need to be properly informed of what concerns them in regard to education and current university issues.

Stop crying Mr. LeDrew and Co! Your gig is up, your track record had proven you are not capable. Why threaten to destroy your admirable replacement. Admit defeat, the "proof is in the paper."
Sincerely, John E. Langille
BA/History

November 18, 1993

Dear Editor,

Recently a friend of ours seemed to be missing. This was extremely unusual considering she was gone for almost 24 hours without a note. Fortunately it was all a misunderstanding and everything turned out fine. Along the way, however, many people were very helpful and made us feel very untroubled. In Lourdes Hall we would like to thank the following people for their assistance,

- Rena Casey
 - Glenn Hollett
 - Jill Curley
 - Ann Whetmore
 - Vikki McKinnon
- Your consideration and attention will not be forgotten.

Lourdes Hall

This letter was addressed to NEXUS by Colleen Trevors. I approached S.U. Pres. Cathy Thorpe and asked if she had a reply and she stated that, yes she had received a copy of this letter and that yes she would like to reply to it in our paper.

Dear Ms. Thorpe,

I think most everyone appreciates honesty and being informed. Consequently, I want to tell you that I am discouraged and extremely unhappy about the way the student union has been conducting business.

It was you that said "We intend to work hard this year to keep the lines of communication open...My duties include careful consideration of all Mount student concerns." I expect and demand this type of respect.

Ms. Thorpe, what is the Learning and Leading Campaign? I have given money to a cause that I know nothing about. I am sure I would support it 100 per cent if I only knew where and how my money is being used. You can bet the professors of this university are fully informed.

Last year, the members of the student union executive purchased gold rings -- how nice. I am not saying I oppose it, I am saying I have a right to know how your spend "our" money. It is irrelevant that you are not going to practice the "right" again this year --Ms. Thorpe you already have a ring, why would you need another?

And finally, I strongly feel that you have not been responsible to the student body concerning the Picaro and Nexus. Over 350 students signed a petition demanding the reinstatement of the Picaro. You obviously have not been listening.

Sincerely yours,
Colleen Trevors

November 30, 1993

Dear Ms. Trevors,

Thank you for writing to me regarding your concerns. To my understanding, your intention in writing was to have two questions answered:

1. What are the details of the Learning and Leading Campaign?
2. Why is Student Union dealing with the newspaper issue the way that it is?

I would like to take this opportunity to respond to your concerns.

The Learning and Leading campaign is a capital fundraiser, voted in by the studentry in a 1989 referendum. It is charged along with your other fees at registration time, to the amount of \$3.00 per credit up to a maximum of \$15.00. Sixty percent of the endowed money will be spent on library holdings, with the remaining forty percent to go for micro computer acquisitions.

You have obviously been misinformed as to the nature of the petition received by Student Council. The petition asked for a referendum to resolve the newspaper issue, not the reinstatement of the Picaro.

I wish I could give you a quick and simple explanation about the newspaper issue. It is a complex and (too) long-running affair, which has tortured council since last March. If it was a simple matter of extinguishing a poorly-run, unrepresentative newspaper, I could wrap this letter up here.

Quite simply, the evolution of our current paper problems is the result of autonomy talks with the Picaro staff of last year. These people did not seem to understand the implications of their autonomous status, one they struggled to attain. Suffice it to say, they are now an independent entity on this campus, left to their own devices to secure office space, equipment, and funding. This represents no violation of any understood agreement between Council and the Picaro.

By electing the representatives on Council, you should be able to expect that we will act in your best interests. Because of numerous complaints about a multitude of aspects of the Picaro, we feel we have fulfilled our mandate by dissociating them from anything that could be perceived as being funded, housed, or even condoned by your Student Council. As I said before, this issue is contentious and multi-faceted, and could be discussed at greater length should you wish to drop by my office.

I would like to again

MORE LETTERS

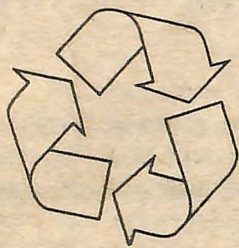
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thank you for your input; I am always happy to hear fresh perspectives, as it allows me to broaden my own views. This job can be difficult sometimes. I'm not saying I'm always going to have the right response or the one you may be looking for, but I assure you I have a sense of what my constituents want and I try to carry out their wishes responsibly and efficiently within the confines of my conscience!

If you have any questions and/or concerns, come see me or give me a call at 457-6532.

Yours truly,

Cathy Thorpe
President,
MSVU Student Union



POETRY CONTEST

\$500 GRAND PRIZE
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OF CONTEMPORARY
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St. Catharines, Ont.
L2T - 4C1

The

CHOICE

is

yours

*The Committee Helping Others In
Consumption Education*

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G.L.B.

COMMITTEE MEETING
JANUARY 13TH, 1994
4:30 PM
LOCATION T.B.A

ASK THE OMBUDSPERSON

The decision to go to university was an easy one for myself. As a single mother with only a high school diploma I knew I needed an edge to survive independently. I chose the Mount because of its outstanding reputation as a high quality university. I also chose the mount, however, because it is a university dedicated to meeting the needs of women.

I believe I made the right choice. I have never had a problem juggling classes around daycare schedule and my professors are very understanding about instances where my child has to take precedence over my education. However, there has always been one thing at the Mount that has bothered me.

This point hit home

especially hard when I happened to leaf through the Mount's calendar. One of the very first things printed in the calendar is a mission statement. The first line of this statement goes "Mount Saint Vincent University is concerned primarily with the education of women." This statement goes on to say that "Programs, class times, facilities and services are specifically tailored to provide maximum accessibility for women."

We now know that the Mount is the only school in Nova Scotia (and one of the few in Canada) that has dedicated itself to the advancement of women. So why is the Mount one of the very few universities which has absolutely nothing in the way of FAMILY HOUSING. You cannot ask anyone in the housing office to

address this question and when I asked a member of Student Council I was told it was being worked on, but that I would be long gone before it was ever changed. I'm not sure what this letter might accomplish either, perhaps nothing. But the issue has been brought up and maybe other people who could benefit from such housing (and there are many) will also begin to question its absence.

Leanne Lake

Ombudsperson Report

I received a letter inquiring as to why the Mount, which principally caters to the education of women, has no family housing. After conducting a brief and hopefully accurate survey of the situation I was greeted with the following

responses. One, we don't have the money right now to even look at the opportunity to provide that service. Two, that it is a very good idea but right now we are trying to repair Rosaria wing, fix the roof in Seton and maintain our current facilities. The other response I received was that once upon a time the house down a Bedford Highway was considered as a potential location for such a residence. However, since the city decided to expand the target acquisition, some known as the Bedford Highway, the house was sold. I wish I could offer you a better response but that is all I have received. However, if other people in the know wish to respond to this letter I and others look forward to your response.

Jeff Ridgeway

continued from the Frontpage...

termed this social construction, women are the "beautiful souls", men the "just warriors." The point here is not the reality of these representations, but their socialization function. Only men can be warriors and heroes.

Wars are occurring all over the world all the time but in our society they occur only occasionally. Most men in the U.S. and Canada never train to be soldiers. And even if they were participants in war, the vast majority of soldiers would not be "making war" as such; they would be taking orders, dying for a cause they had no part in designing. Nonetheless, the culture of masculinity works on ordinary men to prepare them to "join up" or be in a

sense "combat ready" even without rigorous military training. One means is the cultural construction of fantasy legends with which boys and men can identify. Take Rambo, for instance. Here is a larger than life image, to emulate, which can transform ordinary individual male powerlessness into the transcendent power of the patriotic cause, (or, more darkly, another "cause" like Lepine's--killing feminists). But such fantasies become something else in wartime (or in the mind of a civilian "madman" like Lepine): they become the basis for a new behaviour code. To quote Lt. William Calley, leader of the soldiers who participated in the massacre at My Lai:

I killed no human beings that day at My Lai. I didn't do it as a person. I did it for the United States of America, my country. We didn't go there to kill human beings. We went to kill an ideology.

Here is Calley, a real person, who, because of his belief in an abstract "cause", cannot distinguish between actual people and ideology.

Where do women fit into this masculinist culture? At the extreme (and this is what Lepine identified with), marine boot camp, they represent what must be denied (recall "the beautiful souls"--life givers, life nurturers). The culture of masculinity is a form of repression/exclusion. For not only must the soldier have an outer enemy (like the "Commies"), he must defeat inner enemies: his fear, his feelings, his weakness, his reluctance to inflict pain or death, (for recruits must be trained rigorously to this in a closed environment which

military officers readily identify as a "kind of brainwashing"). The soldier, must, after all, be programmed to kill on command (the reflex is all). Whatever in the recruit might stop this is repressed.

It is reassuring, in a sense, to listen to Gwen Dyer in part II of his series on War, entitled "Anybody's Son Will Do," explain in his emphatic, authoritative, way (after all, he was a military man) that men must be taught to kill, that they must be brainwashed into "killing machines."

But is this the whole story? After Montreal and knowing what we know about the extent of extra-legal violence in our society against women and other disadvantaged people, is something else happening? I believe that our society is becoming more violent. I have a 9-year old child, a daughter, and I can see so much from this vantage point. One observation I've made: there is a "little boy" culture of masculinity--an ideal of heroic, violent manliness--which is disturbingly present today. It makes me aware that the victims include, indeed have always included, boys and of course, men.

What do we do? We learn to look for the root cause of the violence in our society and we acquire thereby an overview understanding. Simultaneously we women recognize our victimization and make common cause with other victims of male violence. We continue to challenge the assumptions of the masculinist war military "threat system," which brings us into solidarity with people the world over who suffer from the manifold consequences of militarism and war. And we also act. We

plug in where we are, while we also commit ourselves to act locally.

As women, we must challenge the men and boys in our lives to join us in working to stop the cycle of violence. We need to get them to stop the cycle about responsibility and accountability. We need to think this was, too, to challenge ourselves. Recall Marc Lepine's shot to the ceiling. Is this or a verbal equivalent enough to abandon victims? We may wish to think about what we would have done in that situation, or maybe what we do on a daily basis in other contexts.

Let us remember, then, our 14 murdered sisters:

Genevieve Bergeron
Nathalie Croteau
Anne-Marie Edward
Barbara Maria Klueznick
Maryse Leclair
Sonia Pelletier
Annie St. Arneault
Helene Colgan
Barbara Daigneault
Maud Haviernick
Maryse Laganier
Anne-Marie Lemay
Michele Richard
Annie Turcotte

In closing, I would like to quote Jane Hurshmann, dead at age 42. As few months before her death, which occurred on Feb. 23, 1992, she gave testimony before a City of Dartmouth task force on violence against women. We do well to remember her words and to act upon them:

Battering and violence is not the taboo, speaking out against it is. It can only continue if we remain silent. I want to tell you not to be silent. Come forward. Be heard. The more that come forward the sooner we can change society's attitudes.

NEWS

CAFETERIA RENOVATIONS

By T. Wyman

The renovations to the cafeteria are complete, and some students don't like the new look. One wall that used to be mostly windows is now mostly white plaster, with only two windows remaining.

"I hate it because some of the scenery and sunlight are blocked out," said Melanie Giles.

The air quality problem in Rosaria Centre led to the need for these renovations. It was necessary to shut down the air handling units, which distribute heat to the building. "The shutting down of this system left no means of heating the cafeteria," said Paul Rhyno, who works in the Physical Plant. About 85 per cent of the window space was lost to prevent heat loss. "We insulated and installed baseboard heating to provide direct heat to the room."

New lighting was also installed. Parabolic lenses make fluorescent lighting less harsh, and make the lighting in the room look more natural. "The fluorescent lights make it look like its night all the time," said Rhyno. "The parabolic lenses bring the light to daylight equivalent."

Rhyno said the physical plant has not received any student feedback, but that it "came out better than everyone thought initially."

Rhyno said the cost of the work was "less money than we had budgeted," and that this was the "most cost effective way of restoring heat to the area."

Rhyno said the work took about three weeks, and ran smoothly, and the only real hold up was getting access to the room. The physical plant "tried to work with them

[cafeteria staff] to have the least disruption to the food line as possible." Most of the work being done by in "in house staff", electricians, plumbers, and carpenters employed by the university. However, "we contracted out some of the plaster work, because this was the most cost effective way of getting the plaster work done."

The head chef corroborated Rhyno's comments that there was no interruption in service to the students. "It was well done. They worked in between mealtimes," said Rene Vannieuwenhuizen. "We have a good relationship with the physical plant."

The kitchen is on a separate air handling system, so there were no renovations done in the kitchen.

Vicki MacKinnon, the DON for EvaristusLourdes said "It seemed to me that everything went along fairly smoothly. There was no disruption."

Work continues on the wall, as students prepare for the annual Christmas display competition. Chef Rene said that for the past nine years, the residence houses have competed for the Christmas Challenge Cup, which was won by the house who decorated the best window. Now the windows are gone, but Student Affairs has been given permission to decorate the walls in the same manner as the windows had been decorated, and the physical plant has offered to repaint the wall after the Christmas season. The competition is sponsored by Versa. The murals will be judged and the Christmas Challenge Cup will be awarded on December 8.



photo by Kevin Fraser

Rosaria cafeteria's new look!

WHERE THE JOBS ARE

By Suzanne McKibbin

Recession, downsizing, cutbacks and layoffs. These are some of the words that we often hear in the news today. It is evident that our economy is changing. Many traditional industries such as natural resources and manufacturing have eroded or become obsolete, while others are faced with massive payroll cuts. Yet despite this doom and gloom, a new economy has emerged, leading the way to economic recovery while establishing new trends and opportunities.

What do these changes mean to a University student? How does one determine a plan to successfully navigate one's career? As Nuala Beck, a management consultant and economist advised during her recent Halifax conference, "we must identify what the North American economy has changed into, and design a clear roadmap to the future".

The convergence of new technology and global markets, has created growing technology intensive industries

in which thriving companies can be found. Two of the fastest growing sectors of this new economy are healthcare and software industries. Job opportunities are anticipated to increase in these sectors, and offer skilled workers attractive entry level salaries, often in the mid-thirties range.

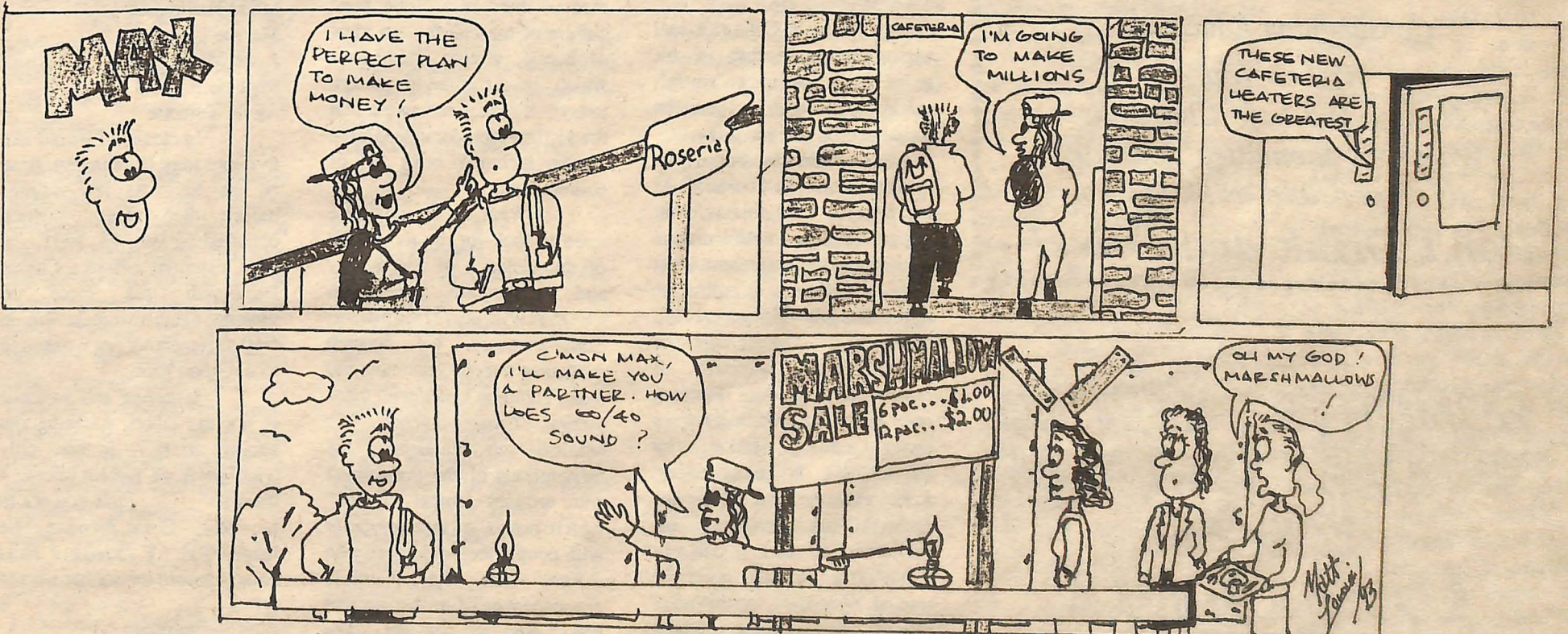
Other Growth industries include specialty metals, telecom-munications, pharmaceuticals, information services, environmental consulting and equipment, biotechnology, semi-conductors, hospitality and tourism, and financial and personal services. Many of the job opportunities are in small, young companies where skills dealing with technology are in high demand.

You can improve your chances of getting a well-paying job with a new economy company by acquiring a broad base of transferable skills. Employers are looking for individuals who demonstrate self-initiative, have strong interpersonal skills and problem-solving ability. Technical skills

also have a high value, with greater emphasis on basic numerical ability and computer literacy.

Upgrading your qualifications through continued learning will help you to increase your skills, and get you job offers. Did you know that the East Coast has the largest number of Universities per capita than any other province? By seeking out diverse educational and work experiences, you will be better able to prepare for your career and find job satisfaction.

The future is brighter than we think, but we must wake up to the changes taking place around us. We may not welcome change, but we can learn to cope with it, and benefit from the opportunities that change brings. To find out more about careers for the 1990's, read Nuala Beck's book, "Shifting Gears: Thriving In The New Economy" and "The Best Jobs For The 1990's And Into The 21st Century" By Ronald Krannich and Caryl Rae Krannich.



AT LAST THEY AGREE

Lyda Hage

Two of the editors for the student newspapers agree that there's a slim chance that a decision will be made before next year about what to do to solve the problem with the newspapers.

"My focus is for next year because this year there are two many obstacles to overcome," said Bob LeDrew, one of the co-editors of the Picaro.

"This issue will not die this year," said Ian Cowan, senior editor of NEXUS. "The situation is not as dim as it was, yet it is is not getting much brighter."

The most recent steps taken to solve the issue occurred a couple of weeks ago at the Student Council meeting when a petition was presented with about 300 signatures from students who support having a referendum to decide how the issue should be resolved.

"Student Council felt the petition was invalid because of the text and the wording of the question," said LeDrew. He said another petition is possible that is more legal in the questioning.

Since the motion was not passed, "it does not look like we will have a referendum this year. There may, however, be one in the new year," said Cowan.

For now, the two editors both agree that things will continue on as they have been in the past couple of months.

The Picaro plans to keep operating as they have been since September, with no office, phone or funding. They plan to continue producing newspaper, trying "to be as normal as possible," said LeDrew.

NEXUS will continue to produce papers that they believe will be of benefit to students. They plan to continue producing papers that are "informative, accountable, and accessible to students," said Cowan.

Both editors agree the issue has been a waste of valuable time and energy for the staff members of the papers and for Student Council who could be spending their time on other important issues that are of concern to the student body.

this story's developments. There was yet another council meeting after the one mentioned above, at which the newspaper issue was again raised. We contacted Internal V.P. Sonia Ballion and asked her to comment on council's decision to not have a referendum. Her reply was as follows:

Regardless of the way the decision about the Picaro was made last year, and of the perceived unfairness of the whole situation, it is impossible for the student council to change anything at this point. I would like nothing more than to please the students here by coming to an equitable solution to this on-going problem, but I cannot see any resolution this year.

The fact is that the student union cannot afford to fund two newspapers. Really, it would be a waste of student money to pay for relatively the same service twice. It would be like the university funding two cafeterias for the residence students. Some people would favour the food in one, some in the other, some in both, and some in neither. The best plan is to have one cafeteria that tries to cater to a variety of tastes.

Likewise, the students of this university need only one newspaper which will try its best to incorporate the views of the whole student body. As well, this solution is far less costly. The choice of which newspaper to choose is as crystal clear to me now as the choice made to have only one funded newspaper.

Due to stipulations in our constitution we cannot fund the Picaro. Nor can we donate to them because of our lack of funds. In order to give the Picaro any money the student council would have to revoke the Nexus' charter and give them the Nexus' funds. However, last year the Picaro's operating budget was twice that of the Nexus budget this year. So I don't think this would work. Also, in order to revoke the Nexus' charter we would need a 2/3 majority vote from council. This, in all fairness, cannot presently occur because council has no reason to revoke the Nexus' charter.

I believe that resolution will be found next year. There are too many egos in the way to amalgamate the two newspaper staffs right now. The way I see it, next year they will have no choice but to kiss and make up or get out of the game entirely.]

Dozier Speaks at MSVU

- Deborah Baker

"Public relations demands both creativity and managerial skills to align the views and values of the organization with the needs and demands of the publics.", public relations scholar David Dozier told about 100 faculty and students at Mount Saint Vincent University. "The ability to perform the manager role is the thing that distinguishes excellent organizations from less than excellent organizations." said Dozier.

Dozier, a professor at San Diego State University, was in Halifax to speak at the Canadian conference of International Association of Business Communicators held during the last week of October. Among many pertinent and interesting comments, Dozier's

speech included much advice and recommendations. Dozier advises that it is important not only to utilize both one-way and two-way communication but to use them well. The organization must not view the public relations practitioner as a "hood ornament" or all the expertise in the world will not help. It is Dozier's contention that, although North American institutions are doing an acceptable job in preparing students for public relations, future practitioners are not being adequately prepared for the twenty first century.

Dozier strongly recommends public relations students consider graduate studies, but advised pursuing a graduate degree only after spending a short time in the work force. After working for

a while it will be easier to choose your area of specialization.

"Opportunity comes from specialized education," Dozier said. "When you graduate from a master's program with a graduate thesis in a specific area this should distinguish you as one of the five specialists in the world in this area" he said.

Dozier's comment arise from his work as part of a three-nation excellence project. This is the largest research study undertaken in the public relations field to date. The project was funded by IABC and was conducted over three countries. There will be two books stemming from this study, one aimed at students and one aimed at practitioners.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 10TH, 1993

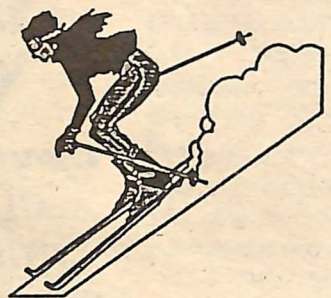
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NEWS

BRUTAL IN THE REAL WORLD

by Robin Boudreau

It's tough out there, said a few Mount graduates from last spring, who work at a job not related to their degree, don't work at all, or came back to do another degree.

"It's really sad," said Lisa Norman, a science degree graduate. She didn't realize how hard it was going to be until she got out there.

"I went knockin' at everyone's doors," Norman said, to the unemployment office, looked in the paper, and sent out "hundreds of resumes."

Norman said there are so many people out of work these days, the "competition is fierce," and those with experience get the jobs.

She has one friend with a degree in education and arts, and he's working as a cook. Yet, another friend with a business degree "lucked out big time," she said, getting a job as an accounting clerk with an airline.

Norman got her part-time job as a telephone representative for Sears,

"because of my mother," she said.

"I'm still hopeful though," Norman said, "you have to be." However, hope is hard to find sometimes, said business graduate Tracey White, "when you don't even have money to mail out resumes, and to go looking for jobs."

"I phone the job line about five times a day," White said, "and there's nothing on it."

When she applied to companies not advertising employment, they told her there is a freeze on, and no one is hiring.

"I guess I'll have to go back to the jobs that don't require a degree, to pay for my degree," White said, "I can't afford any more degrees, I can't even afford to pay for the one I have now."

Also, she said it seems there are no full time jobs, only part time.

Then there are those like Kelli Harlow. She has a science degree, and came back this year to get one in arts. She said there are no jobs, and figured she would come back

for more training.

Harlow said she knows many people returning to pursue a second degree, because they couldn't find jobs.

Nevertheless, Suzanne McKibbin, Career Placement Officer at the Mount said, "What it all comes down to is interpersonal skills."

"If you are not marketable," McKibbin said, "you will not get the job."

One must know how to look, where to look, and do some self-assessment she said. They offer one on one counselling, and small workshops to guide and direct students in finding employment.



VINNIE'S REVENUE DOWN

Jamie Neissen

Vinnie's substantial loss in revenue can be mainly attributed to the no smoking policy put into effect last year, according to both pub manager, Keith Seymour, and student Union general manager, Scott MacKay.

"I'd say we're off anywhere from 40 to 50 percent from last year said MacKay. When asked why, MacKay replied "smoking, plain and simple."

Students used to go to Vinnie's throughout the day and have a cigarette while doing work, or just relaxing, but that is no longer an option.

Vinnie's ventilation system is linked to the system which serviced areas contaminated with toxic mould, and to prevent further contamination was shut down as a precautionary measure. A memo from Mount president Elizabeth Parr-Johnston dated March 23, 1993, states that "because the air handling system in Vinnie's Pub has been shut down, SMOKING IN THE PUB IS PROHIBITED until further notice."

Keith Seymour said the no smoking policy "sort of pushes people away." While there is no smoking permitted inside, smokers can use the new patio. Seymour said they will keep the patio shovelled off in the winter for those who still want to smoke outside.

No smoking is not the only reason for a loss in revenue. "There is less of a tendency for people to drink," said MacKay. he stated that alcohol free events such as The Pursuit of Happiness concert have been very successful.

On the issue of serving food in the pub, MacKay said their "hands are tied." Only Versa can supply food on campus, and though the Student Union has approached them, they will not supply food for Vinnie's.

"It's discouraging, but it's not over," said MacKay. Vinnie's is not like a regular business. It is not out to make a profit, it is there to provide a service to students. Vinnie's provides the "chance to socialize with other students, a chance to get away from classrooms or the library," said MacKay.

Stop The Silence On Violence

By Mary Hart-Baker

panellists who will lead the discussion.

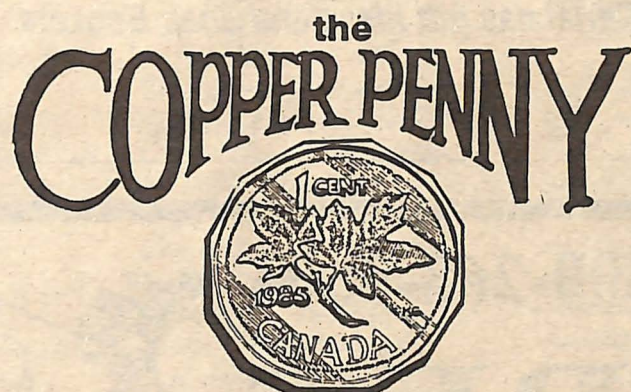
There are 30 killings per hour on television. In a year children see an average of 8000 murders on the screen. "Stop the Silence on Violence" is an open forum which will link experts from around the Atlantic region via television to address the issues surrounding violence on television.

"Stop the Silence on Violence," an initiative of Atlantic Canada's community cable channels, will take place on December 3rd, 8:30 p.m. (Atlantic Time), in Seton Academic Centre on Mount Saint Vincent University. The public is encouraged to attend and participate. This program will be broadcast nationally via the parliamentary channels and many community cable channels.

Trina McQueen, Chair of the National Action Group on Violence, in Television, Professor Harriet Field of Mount Saint Vincent University Child and Youth Studies Program, Peter Fleming, Director General of the Television Programming Branch of the CRTC and Virginy Lariviere, are among the

The perceived increase of violence on television is a major concern to Canadians. National attention to this issue gained momentum in the fall of 1992 through the determination of Virginy Lariviere, a then 14 year old girl from Quebec, whose sister was brutally raped and murdered. Lariviere authored a petition signed by 1.4 million Canadians demanding change to regulations governing violence on television.

The statistics on television violence are disturbing, and its' relationship to violence in society cannot be overlooked. It is estimated that children between the ages 6 and 12 watch an average of 1,100 hours of television a year. There are twice as many violent acts in children's programming than in regular programming. By the time children enter high school they will have seen over 100,000 violent acts depicted during their brief viewing lifetime. "Stop the Silence on Violence" is Atlantic Canada's first step toward a solution.



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SAM MOON

FREDA WALES NATURE AND FITNESS TRAIL

Jane Hawsworth

HALIFAX-The Freda Wales Fitness Trail is currently being renovated on the Mount Saint Vincent University campus grounds by the Athletics/Recreation Department, Physical Plant and Manager of Grounds and is due for completion by August 1994.

The two-kilometre trail has taken two years to organize and consists of several phases.

Phase one is the reconstruction over parts of the original Freda Wales trail that was built in 1983, phase two includes developing a natural arboretum to promote environmental awareness and phase three is the restoration of historical sites relating to the Sisters of Charity.

Freda Wales died in 1982 and the trail was built as a tribute to her lasting commitment and her devotion to physical fitness. Wales specialized in the physical activity for women through coaching athletic teams, organizing canoeing, orienteering and camping trips for Mount Saint Vincent Academy graduates.

For safety reasons, the organizers decided to stay on lower campus in reconstructing the trail to keep it safe. "Our goal was to make sure that there is access from almost every building," said athletics and recreation coordinator, June Lumsden.

"It will follow the natural curvature of the land and protect the trees in the arboretum.

They are hoping it is used by students, faculty, employees and the external community. In the summer it can be used by mountain bikers, boy scouts and students. The trail is also partially wheelchair accessible. "We think it will get more use than the original one," said Lumsden. The trail will be closed for the winter.

The funding of the \$33,000 trail comes from the Learning and Leading campaign, Mount Saint Vincent University and a \$10,000 grant from the Province of Nova Scotia.

Fundraising was aimed at landscapers, excavators, nurseries, the city and other companies that could make a donation. "The response was great," said Lumsden. Much of the donations came in the form of goods and services such as tree grubbing, excavation, sod and bark chips.

Catherine Deveau, manager of grounds on campus, has been in charge of the construction to date. "We are making the trail as much in the woodland as possible," she said. "It is a really good footpath, as well as fitness trail."

There were places that were more difficult to construct than others. "We had to etch out the trail and it involved mostly handwork," said Deveau.

The delay in the construction at the moment is due to the expansion of the Bedford Hwy. The city is going to place a paved path, which will be lit, along the front of the highway. That will not be completed until early next year, said Deveau.

Our plan is "to incorporate a nature trail into the fitness trail," said Nick Hill, a biologist at the Mount. Phase two of the construction includes signage and upgrading of the arboretum.

"We really want to develop the arboretum," said Lumsden, with help from the Learning and Leading campaign, M.S.V.U. and environmental grants. Signage will be placed for interpretative nature and to promote environmental awareness.

"We want to educate people in the basic concepts of ecology and illustrate the biodiversity of the plants and animals," said Hill.

"The next step," said Lumsden, "is to educate the community. We want the trail to be utilized by everyone as it has a threefold purpose."

People can use the pathways to get a good workout, learn about nature and the arboretum and enjoy the beauty of the Mount's campus all at the same time. "We hope that it will be a big success."

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Susan Trider
Bobo and Marcus McMarky
Mark
Andrea Morrison
Jeff "J-MAN" Morris
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T.C.
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POSITIVE PREDICTIONS FOR WOMEN'S B-BALL

This year's Mystics Women's Basketball team features a whole group of new faces. There are only two returning players to the Mystics team and eleven rookies.

"I thought when I first saw this team that they were potentially strong, and I haven't been disappointed. But I guess I am surprised at just how strong they are," said Head Coach Patsy Pyke.

"They all come from strong High School backgrounds and they love the game. Any coach would be thrilled to be able to work with a group like this. I have said over and over how impressed I am with their work ethic and how much they seem to like each other and enjoy playing with each other. We all realize that we have to work together this year and it has been a real team effort."

Returning from last year's team are Danielle Weatherbe and Heather Frederick who will be expected to lend their experience to this young team. Good things are expected of Pam McCulloch from South Colchester and former teammate Mindee Walker.

"These two players have been playing together for a long time and they have a real feel for each other when they are on the floor together" said Pike.

Melissa Stevens from East Pictou is a strong addition to the back court which is a position she is not used to playing but has adapted to well.

"We will be looking to Melissa to score more for us as she gets used to this new position."

Andrea Hill is the post we will be looking to go inside more.

"I don't think we have used Andrea to her full potential yet, but we will be looking to

change this soon."

Maria Gough from Antigonish plays a wing or off guard with the mind set of a post player which means she is not afraid to go inside with the big girls.

"We will be looking for Maria to drive to the basket more. The more we take the opposition to the basket aggressively the more trips to the foul line we should have."

"Trish Whynott is progressing very well into the type of player I can depend upon to go into the game and get things fired up. With more time in and more confidence, she will be a consistent player for the Mystics."

Rounding out the roster are good solid players like Angie Langille from Cole Harbour, Line Sletvold who played for KCA and Tanya MacIntyre from Isle Madam who with time in and experience will be playing a lot more as the season progresses.

The bench is a lot deeper than Coach Pyke had anticipated. "I think that the most difficult thing for me as a coach is making sure I get the right players in at the right time. Before you know it forty minutes has gone by and you realize that you haven't been able to get everyone into the game. It's tough as a player to go to practice everyday and work hard and then not get into a game when you feel you are ready. I know from first hand because I have been there. At the same time we have talked about it as a team and we all agree that we want to do well and I guess I have to encourage the players to trust me to make the right decision at the right time."

With the help of Assistant Coach Audrey Norman, former Mystics basketball and soccer star, this is made a lot easier.

SCOREKEEPERS WANTED

The Athletics office is looking for individuals to work basketball and volleyball home games.

These individuals will be responsible for the scorebook, thirty second clock and main clock at basketball

games; lines and scorebook for volleyball games.

We pay \$5.00 a game and you get the best seat in the house.

Anyone interested please contact Patsy Pyke in the A/R Office.

BLOW YOUR HORN

If you play an instrument of any kind the Athletics Office is looking for you.

The A/R Office is looking for students who play instruments to get together to play at home games.

It's meant to be low key and fun. We just want you to be involved in developing school spirit at home games and

in cheering our teams on to victory.

So if you have an instrument and are interested in performing for school spirit contact the Athletics/Recreation Office at 457-6420 or drop into the office at any time during the day.

We'll be listening for you.

AWESOME SPRING BREAK TRIPS!

Campus Reps Needed. Cancun, Cuba, Daytona and Quebec City.

CALL NOW!!!
1-800-363-0634

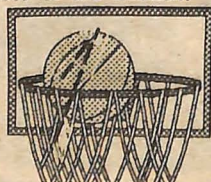
PEPSI ATHLETE

The Pepsi Athlete of the Month for October was Shelley Snair. Shelley is a member of the Mystics Soccer team. Shelley was selected to the 1993 NSCAA All Conference team. She has been nominated All Canadian twice before and has been leading scorer for the Mystics.

Congratulations to Shelley on being selected Pepsi Athlete of the Month.

The November choice for Pepsi Athlete of the Month is Tony Ross point guard for the Mystics Men's Basketball team. Tony is one of only three veterans on the men's team this year and has had to take on the added responsibility of being a team leader as well as one of the best three point shooters in the NSCAA. In the MSVU vs NSTC game last week Tony scored 31 points eight of which were three pointers.

Congratulations Tony on being named November's Athlete of the Month.



FEATURE

SOCCER SEASON ENDS

The Mount Mystics were unsuccessful in their bid for the 1993 NSCAA Crown this year as they lost to Nova Scotia Teachers College 3-0.

"Teachers College played very well" said Coach Patsy Pyke. "They are very fast and they took our game away from us right from the start. During the year we have

been able to play a really nice pass and run game on the wing between our half backs and our forwards but we were unable to put it into gear this time."

The team did however manage to put a player on the All Conference team. Shelley Snair was selected for the third time in as many years to the NSCAA All Conference team.

VOLLEYBALLERS UNDEFEATED

The Mystics Volleyball team are at present undefeated with 6 wins and no losses in the Nova Scotia Colleges Athletic Association Volleyball league.

If you have followed volleyball at the Mount at all, you will know that the Mount has an exceptional volleyball program.

Coaches Howard Jackson and June Lumsden have, between the two, guided ten teams to NSCAA titles and ten trips to CCAA National Volleyball Tournaments over the past twelve years. This is an

unprecedented record.

This year the team seems as strong as ever. Returning starters Linda Shovellor, Rachel Brown and All Canadian Krista Naugler will be expected to take a leadership role in the team's quest for their eleventh banner. Remaining returnees Renee Fournier, Angie Garner, Hope Carr and Natasha Hurley add their experience to the task at hand and welcome rookies Brenda Toner, Nicole Dakin, Andrea Hurley and Kelly Dykstra.

GALLERY DIRECTOR WINS AWARD

Campus Connection



Mary Sparling, director of the Mount Art Gallery, has been honoured with a national award for her work in the visual arts.

The 1993 Warner-Lambert Canada Inc. Award for Distinguished Service in Arts Administration is presented annually for outstanding service in the field of arts administration.

Sparling worked as curator of education at the Nova Scotia Museum for five years before coming to the Mount in 1973. During her 20 years at the gallery, she's organized more than 300 exhibitions and various symposia.

A native of Collingwood, Ont., Sparling received her Master's degree from Dalhousie University where her topic was The British Vision in Nova Scotia (1749 - 1848): What Views the Artists Reflected and Reinforced.

She has won many awards for her life-long dedication to arts and culture. She received the Queen's Silver Jubilee Medal for Services to the national museum community in 1977, the Progress Woman of Distinction Cultural Award in 1991 and the Cultural Federation of Nova Scotia's Life Award for Outstanding Cultural Executive.

In Sparling's hands, the Mount Gallery has become known as an important venue for works from emerging women and minority artists, and is known nationwide for its Africville Exhibit, which toured nationally.

The award will be presented to her at a ceremony on Nov. 18 at the University of Toronto's Scarborough Campus. Congratulations, Mary!

GOURMET DINING - NOT!

What makes the Rosaria cafeteria so appealing to residence students? Well, I will let you in on a little secret ... IT'S NOT THE FOOD! I have recently had the "pleasure" of sampling at least a portion of the dishes offered (or is that forced upon?) students.

The sad part is that some students are required to pay exorbitant amounts of money for food that is, at times, unrecognizable, if not inedible. But don't get me wrong; I am sure that there are many delicious dishes created that are suitable for consumption. My complaint, however, lies within the realm of reality - the simple things, as small as they may be, that would yield a significant change in attitudes toward cafeteria dining.

For instance, WASH the utensils! It is absolutely disgusting (to the point of losing one's appetite, if not their previous meal) to have to sort through the cutlery to find ones that are not caked with the remnants of the last meal.

Yuck!

Coffee should taste freshly brewed, not like it was made last week. Clean out the machines daily. It may be a hassle, but those students who drink coffee deserve something that at least resembles the beverage indicated on the outside of the machine. If the machine does get cleaned daily then maybe a change in coffee brands is in order.

Eggs! What can I say about eggs? First of all, boiled eggs do not have GREEN yokes! If they do, then they have been boiled too long. A slight adjustment in your timing methods appears to be required. Secondly, fried eggs sunny-side up. Of course the yokes should be runny, but the white portion of the egg should not. That usually means that it is raw and therefore needs to be cooked a tad longer. Use a lid to cover the eggs to help cook the top.

Lettuce! Last time I checked, crisp lettuce is more appropriate for salads than the limp greenery you have sitting

in your salad bar. Perhaps between meals the lettuce could be put back in a cool place and changed a little more often.

These are just a few of the items I sampled during my two trips to the cafeteria. I have, however, heard many other stories that make me question the value of the Mount's meal plan. You know you have a problem when ice cream becomes a staple food because students are disgusted with the alternatives.

Finally, to those of you who work at preparing the cafeteria food and are offended at my comments I would like to say, frankly, too bad. The way I see it, if you went to a restaurant and received similar food and service I question whether or not you would you feel an overpowering urge to pay the bill. And if that were the case would you be a repeat customer? I THINK NOT!

Jeff Benson

POLAR BEARS SPLASH FOR DADDIES

V.P.

This year's MSVU Polar Bear swim raised a total of \$500.00. The money was presented to the Christmas Daddies Telethon, on Sunday evening, December 5th, 1993, by Sonia Ballion, S.U. Internal

The top money raiser was S.U. President Cathy Thorpe, who raised \$232.00.

The annual fund-raiser was as usual a great success and a good and orderly time was had by all.

The only sour note in the event was the reported theft of S.U. President Cathy Thorpe's underwear. Thorpe described the apparel as "Black lace and crotchless." Proving once again she is a multi-dimensional woman.



photos by Kevin Fraser



**NEXUS DEADLINE
FOR THE NEW YEAR:
JANUARY 7TH, 1994**

LETTERS TO J-MAN

Dear Editor

I would like to make a few comments on the column "Morris Muses". There has been quite bit of negative response around the campus and I think that it's time someone came to Mr. Morris' defense. The column is funny. Where there is often a lot of need, especially at the Mount, to look carefully at how we regard issues etc. there is an equally important need to laugh at ourselves. Mr. Morris has never said anything sexist or offensive and I don't recall him ever saying anything malicious. He is simply trying to put a humour column in the new paper and I think that's fine. Let's face it, this school needs to take a lighter look at itself once in a while and I think that is what Mr. Morris is attempting to do. Keep up the good work J-Man, I'll be looking forward to your next issue.

Susan Trider

Full time student and Nexus reader

Dear J-Man

You're luscious. You're all about Gonzo journalism. Personally I think those detractors are full of it. Among my buddies here at the Mount you've got a cult following. We think you're out of control and

heading for a big fall but your posse at the SAC are always ready to defend you. Keep writing Bro!

Bobo and Marcus McMarky Mark

(ed. note: the above letter was signed however the writers chose to be identified by the above pseudonyms.)

Dear Mr. Cowan

This letter will hopefully serve to voice my opinions on one of your articles; Morris Muses. My friends and I have discussed his style at length and, although we disagree on what we think of Mr. Morris, we do agree that he has a very humorous article. The essence our argument is whether or not Mr. Morris is deserving of the space he receives in your paper. Our conclusion was that the Nexus deals well, with a few bugs, with all the issues facing the students at the Mount and Morris Muses provides an alternative to the issues through humour. So, despite what some students say, we have agreed that to remove the column would disrupt the balance of the paper. The world needs J-Men too.

Best Regards,
Andrea Morrison

MORRIS MUSES



Ho, ho, ho! Merry Christmas my boorish, ignoble simpletons. Santa J-Man received many letters from good little boys and girls this year and although all the little creeps will be getting coal, it's important to lead them on so they shut up in the shopping malls. Let's dig deep into the elves' mail bag and see what there is to see. I must say that this week's letters were considerably more favourable than last week's and when my little beagoated editor showed them to me I was quite beside myself with awe and self-praise. While I intend to first address the written letters, I would also like to address some oral outcries that have reached my burning ears.

First of all, thanks to all the letter writers. At least someone at this school is literate enough to write a letter and lick the envelope without getting a

paper cut on their tongue. Moreover those said people wrote with a good deal of wisdom and foresight in describing me, your humble narrator, as an excellent columnist as well as a sensitive and, above all, humble guy. By the way, who in the Hell is Marcus McMarky Mark? Bud, it's not often I recommend a name change for my buddies who aren't felons but for you I'll make an exception. Still, my thanks goes out to all my writers and I hope you'll be regular correspondents in the future. I also give advice so if you are having a plagiarism-guilt problem or would like some tips for more effective methods, feel free to drop a line.

Alas to my detractors. These moronic cowards always drop a sheepish line to the ombudsman or titter a negative ditty to a staffer who is enjoying a coffee or a whizz and, quite reasonably so, wishes to be left alone. The classic comment I wish to share from one of these ghost babblers is the widespread belief that I am my cynical self to mask an underlying confidence problem. Well, that certainly deserves some study. I re-read my previous article to see from whence such comments were derived. My conclusions were that the problem lies with you, the detractors; an obvious crock of delusory morons who

assume because their high scores on multiple guess psych tests, they are fit to judge my psyche. Pathetic! Anyway, if you wish for me to give you the credibility you're obviously yearning for, write me a letter or...begone.

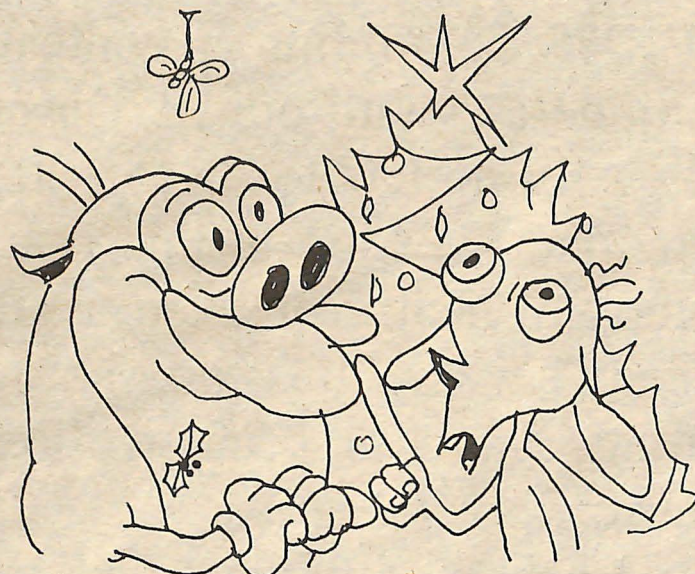
Well, it's time for the J-Man christmas wish list that you've been waiting to read so you can buy me a present and waste your parents money in a pathetic form of rebellion. So without further ado, here is my wish list:

- 1-World Peace...Ha!
- 2-A 240 watt converter for my electric inflate-a-mate.
- 3-Franz Needlemeier's polkas for poking C.D.
- 4-Any self-help book for someone suffering from a confidence problem.
- 5-A year's supply of nasal hair remover (extra strong).
- 6-A small, young goat to sacrifice to the Gods of Cynicism. (If a goat is too expensive, a member of the student union executive will do but then I'll also need an altar that withstand up to 1000 degrees (the temperature at which bullshit burns).
- 7-A 1-900 line that enables me to share my wisdom and mystique with millions of people and, in doing so, rake in thousands of dollars from the misery of their existence.
- 8-A new and more comprehensive thesaurus that will help me to learn yet more words to describe you, my unschooled, hoodwinked twits.
- 9-Some of that cool mossy stuff that grows on your teeth when you don't come home for three nights and remember only a big boat and all kinds of men dressed in white.
- 10-And last but not least I would like all of you to have a safe holiday and the best fortune when hitting up your relatives with that poor-student crap that ensures you enough money for a good yuletide drunk every year.

Well, that's it for this issue and for this semester. Take it truly easy or just be easy, and I'll be yanging away at you soon. Keep you rotten letters coming and I will respond, my micro-brained semi-intellectuals.

Bye!
-J-Man

NO SIR,
I DON'T LIKE
IT!



LIFE

Uncle Steve

Well it is that time of the year when most people flock shopping centres to buy Christmas presents. I have had friends call me asking what's happening. To make the story short, my friends want to know the reasons behind the big smile on my face. The fact that you see a smile on someone's face should not lead to the conclusion of happiness. For one thing, I'm happy because "Nexus" is moving forward and I spend much time trying to research on the best way of contributing. On the other hand, Christmas is just around the corner. This creates joy in my heart. Christmas holiday provides time to stay away from the Kingdom of class assignments, and develop a new strategy of coping in the new year. To say the truth, I'm kind of tired of wrestling with class assignments (I wish none of my Profs reads this). I think we have covered enough for the semester, we need a break folks! Remember, uncle complains just about anything.

Christmas holiday is a time of rejoicing. Christmas is a time of celebrating the birth of our saviour, Jesus Christ with respect and in prayer. Christmas is a time of worship, it is a time of reconciliation. Christmas is a time when people come together as a family in the name of celebration and the spirit of forgiveness. This is the time when people should bury the past and just try to get along. Christmas is a time of giving and helping the needy.

Christmas holiday is the best time to remember those who face every kind of abuse, violence and all other social evils in society.

Christmas is a time of reconstruction, a time of creating a better World by thinking about the future generations. It is a time of developing a sense of vision and direction. It is a time of thinking creatively and being environmentally conscious. This is the best time to remember that the World was created. Above all, Christmas is a time to obey and recall that Christ died on the cross because of our sins. We are all blessed to be alive, praise God! This is the time Uncle Steve stops watching "Hardcopy" and reads the Bible instead of the tabloids. A time when the beauty of the decorations, the friendly atmosphere, the shining snow and the ringing bells, hymns and all other wonderful things take place. On Christmas day Santa Claus comes home from wherever he has been hiding all year round. Wonderful!

There are rumours that Santa will bring me some presents from the Caribbean, I will keep my readers posted on this. I just keep my little fingers crossed. I wish you a marvelous Christmas holiday and a happy new year. Drop your suggestions on vax a c c o u n t SGekara@LINDEN.MSVU.CA on the best ways to improve the Sports and Entertainment section in the NEXUS. Thank you so much.

HI MY NAME IS FLORANCE WILSON
INDEPENDENT BEAUTY CONSULTANT FOR
MARY KAY COSMETICS
I'm offering free facials and glamour makeovers
to all Mount students
get together with 3 of your friends and
I'll come directly to your room/home
Call me anytime: 865-8462
Shop early: Christmas Gift Baskets available

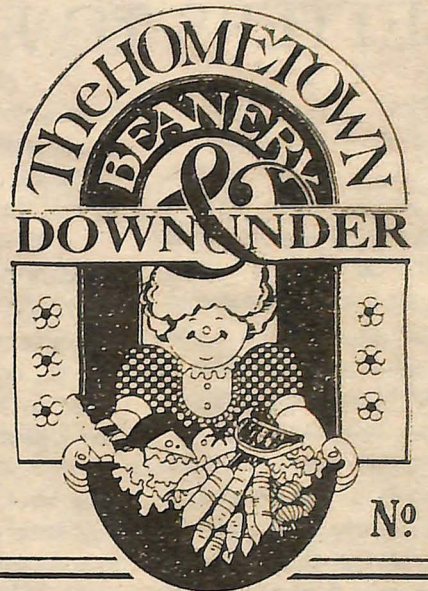
MOVIE CONTEST

NEXUS is holding a contest to give away a prizes in conjunction with our movie review section.

All one has to do to enter is to correctly answer the provided question in this issue and attach a receipt from a movie theatre or from a play. Drop your answer and receipt in the box on the MANUS door, the Rosaria Corner Store or bring it directly to our NEXUS office, fourth floor Rosaria.

Each month there will be a new question and you may enter as often as you wish. There is a one prize person limit. The draw is open only to Mount Students. NEXUS staff members that receive an honoraria are not permitted to enter the draw. The executive members of the Student Council are also prohibited from entering. The prize drawing will be in late January 1994.

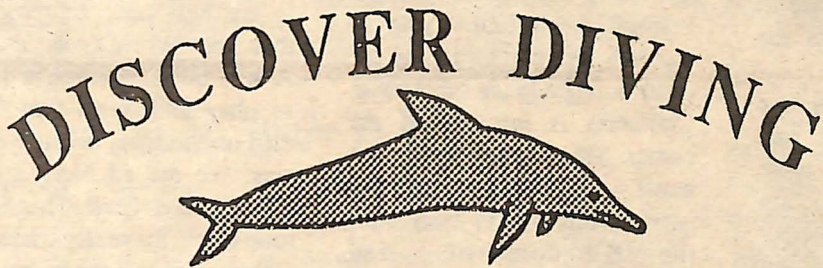
Good Luck! Greg and Nancy.



Split Crow

MOTHER TUCKER'S
Prime Rib • Seafood • Steaks

SALES - INSTRUCTION - RENTALS - REPAIRS - TRAVEL



THE CITADEL INN
HALIFAX

THIS MONTH'S QUESTION: WHO KILLED
CARLITO IN "CARLITO'S WAY?"

LOST LOVES

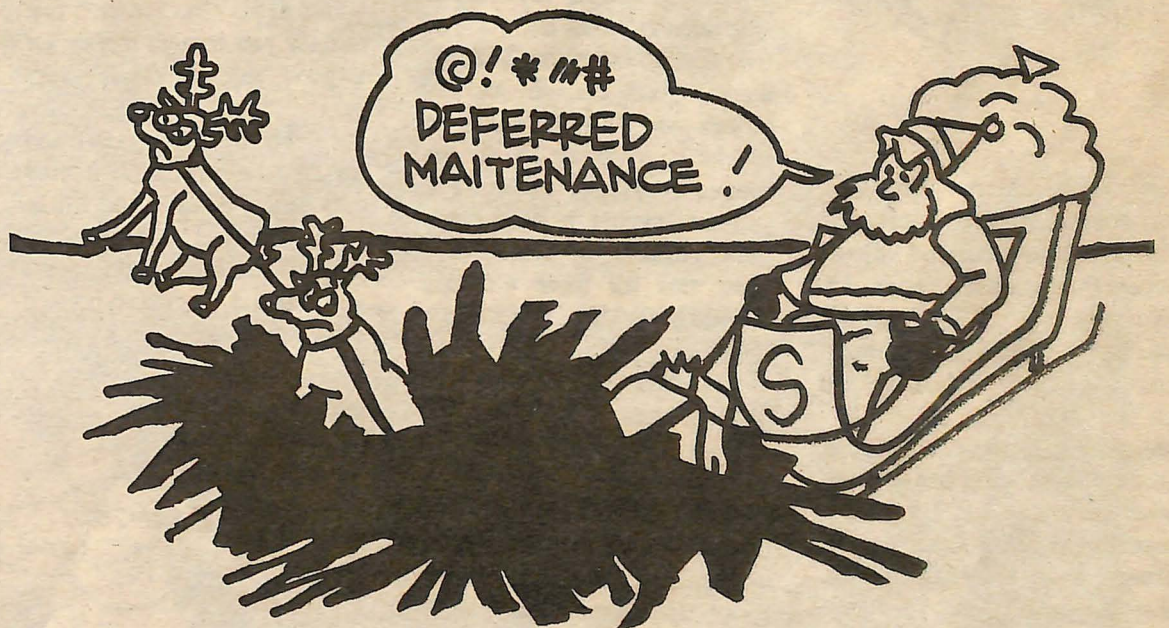
Who mourns for Venus? Who weeps for those who suffer the interior pain of the loss of a former lover? I expect that these questions are carefully and perhaps neurotically asked over and over within those that have experienced the singular loss of one they have loved.

I am not speaking of grief for those who may have passed away but, rather, that singular pain associated with saying goodbye to someone with whom you once planned a future, entrusted with your fear, burdened with the weight of your needs and told yourself that, if need be, you would give your life for. Does it really matter how it ended, whose fault it was or why you fell out of love? Certainly not. What matters is that you draw from the experience something that will positively influence your life.

Personally, I recently

conceded to the power of destruction rampant in my relationship. That was where the story ended; that was goodbye. As a result of the break-up, I have found myself at a new point of reflection within myself. Too often I was selfish and expectant of an instant concession to my needs. This behaviour, although not the reason for the end, is certainly a conditioned action based on a self-oriented attitude toward commitment. The result of this action has become an emptiness within myself. I have only lost love once before and, to the best of my recollection, I countered my fears and weakness with belligerent action and a facade of bravado to mask my pain and overwhelming feeling of inadequacy.

I undertake to write this article because of a need to voice my feelings of melancholy and sadness. Each day I am reminded of something I should



ROSARIA

have done; a way I should have acted. The very reality of my feelings initiates a new serenity within myself and, although I need to heal, I have hope.

I implore anyone who feels the emptiness of a broken heart; search within yourself for the answers to your questions.

Direct your queries to your soul for answers. Please do not regret the result or consequences of releasing yourself to another but, rather, take comfort that your heart is capable of love and loving again. Believe that the answers to you hollow cries will be answered by your own

strength. You need only to listen to your own heart.

Who mourns for Venus? Perhaps we all do however we also sing with her for the incomparable joy of giving and receiving love.

- T.C.