

the **Picaro**

Wednesday, October 28, 1987

Vol. 23, #7

mount saint vincent university halifax, n.s.

You should know this man!

See pages 6 and 7

The University Archives



NAME: Yusuf Osman Samantar

NATIONALITY: Somalian

OCCUPATION: Lawyer

CHARGE: Refusal to join ruling party

SENTENCE: Twelve years in solitary
confinement (and counting)

Sermon on the Mount

When I was considering editorial topics, I planned to whine about how in this age of technological advancements, humans still manage to consume vast amounts of macaroni with day-glo cheese sauce. Wierd huh?

But then I thought I'd just write about the Meadows. Does anyone understand why professors are doing scientific experiments in broom closets? Does anyone understand why the president's residence (I love that word) is bigger than Seton Academic Centre. Does anyone know if the Meadows is over budget. And probably most important, where did they get that ridiculous name?

The answer? I don't know, and neither does anyone else. The closed-mouth attitude at MSVU is staggering.

It seems to me that if students are to take any pride in where they receive a post-secondary education (I love that word too) then they should know a little more about it. I'm done.

Robert Caume

Robert Caume
Entertainment Editor



Letters to the editors

Women students can learn from discriminatory comments

To the Editors:

I would like to take a moment, through the *Picaro*, to thank Rod Benteau and Rick Collins for their recent comments in Cheryl O'Connell's October 21st story, "New councillors predominantly male". Mr. Benteau, for example, stated that "Girls, really, are more complacent...Generally speaking, women seem more likely to accept being led than to accept leadership." Mr. Collins remarked that women, perhaps, have a "fear of the responsibility of the (student council) positions." These boys have provided a valuable learning opportunity for the women students of Mount Saint Vincent University.

I must admit that I was, at first, appalled and more than a little irate at the article's tone, and that anyone could make such outrageously generalized and discriminatory statements against women. After considering the issue, however, I decided that perhaps the younger women students of MSVU, particularly those who have not had experience in the off-campus workforce, could learn from the comments of these gentlemen.

Many of the female students have been brought up to believe that they can pursue any occupation towards which they are inclined, the fight for women's equality is long over, the right to the equal pay for equal work is their natural and unimpeded due, and that they have the same opportunities as their male counterparts. Often, they see male discriminatory behaviour as part of the distant past, and feel that as the "old boys network" dies off in the upper echelons of the business world, so too will the unfair practices women have had to face.

As a young woman of roughly the same age group, I once shared, and can therefore understand, that mode of thought. I took my first full-time job in 1981, and was shocked the first time a senior officer of the company explained to me that women cannot be managers "because they cry." I tried to ignore the jokes that the male sales representatives made about the female sales rep at a rival firm having obtained the position because of her legs (ignoring her MBA). I sympathized with my friend being told by her supervisor that

while she was doing the work of the assistant manager, the head of the family-owned company she worked for would not consider a corresponding title or compensation—after all, women just get married, have babies and leave, so why bother?

Still, even in the face of these and many similar incidents, my friends and I hoped that these were isolated cases, and that the men that we had grown up with would not harbour the same sentiments. Unfortunately, as we worked with them, dated them, and yes, married them, we found the same ugly attitudes had been instilled in more than a few. Last year, in an MSVU business marketing course that I attended, the class was discussing ethical situations in business. One of the situations we voted on involved the case of a manager wishing to hire a female salesperson, but recognizing that some of the company's all-male sales force or customers might object. Seven of the nine men in that class voted not to hire in that instance.

So, I say to the young women students of Mount Saint Vincent University, take a good look at two of the men that were elected to your student council. Men who hold views that you are complacent, easily led and afraid of responsibility are sitting in classrooms with you today, and will be in the workforce with you tomorrow. They may attempt to soften their statements with condescending little admonitions like "let's blame history," but inside they believe what they're saying. It is your responsibility to let those expressing similar views know that this is simply not acceptable—perhaps with your votes.

Valerie Leonard
Part-time student
and Co-President, Mount Saint Vincent University Staff Association

Editors Note: Ms. Leonard states, in the last paragraph of her letter, that Collins and Benteau were elected to student council. In fact, of the two, only Benteau ran for a position. Neither Benteau or Collins hold elected positions on student council.

Staffer defends election coverage

Dear Editors,

This is in response to the Chief Electoral Officer's rather baffling letter in the Oct. 21 *Picaro*.

As I read it, she is blaming the *Picaro*, and exclusively the *Picaro*, for the poor turnout at her election. She is absolutely correct when she says we gave the election a low priority.

And here's why.

With all the major positions running uncontested, and with the contested positions completely devoid of any issues except personality, we had a story without news value, save that an election was occurring.

To this end, we announced both the time and date of the balloting, provided a complete list of candidates, and tried to make several of them sound as though they had valid reasons

for running. Quite sporting of us, I think. Hardly "negligent."

Moreover, it should go without saying that her assertion that we should have covered the story according to her "objectives" is monstrous, and shows a fundamental ignorance about the role of a free press in a free society. Or even one at the Mount.

Considering that the *Picaro* runs weekly love letters to the council members, thinly disguised as profiles, Council is hardly in a place to whine about our coverage of their activities.

I should hope that student council learns to think things through before they write harsh letters. We don't want to have to deal with this again in the near future.

Paul Paquet
News Editor

PR workshop inspires initiative

Dear Editors:

Being a first year public relations student at the Mount, I personally would like to thank the Public Relations Society for holding the Portfolio Workshop on Thursday, Oct. 15, 1987. In attendance were Marjory Dunstan, a fourth year PR student at the Mount, Gina Brown, communications officer with Environment Canada, Angela Murray, National Director of Marketing for Doane-Raymond, and Bruce Robertson, president of the International Association

of Business Communicators, Atlantic Chapter. Each of them presented us with their views of how to build a good portfolio, and after, we had the privilege of viewing their personal portfolios.

The session was very informative, not only to me, but to all those in attendance. I learned a great deal and it certainly gave me the initiative to begin working on my own portfolio. Again, thanks to the PR Society for organizing such an informative event.

Karen Power



the *Picaro*

Once upon a time, a little man named *Picaro* proclaimed the news throughout the countryside. Today, he settles for the campus of Mount Saint Vincent University.

The *Picaro* is the students' newspaper, and contributions from the student body are always welcome. The deadline for copy and letters-to-the-editor is Friday at noon. All submissions must be signed, double-spaced, and typed. We will not consider publication otherwise. Anonymity, however, can be granted upon request. The *Picaro* reserves the right to edit for length and/or legality. Lengthy letters to the editor may be submitted as Hyde Park Corner features.

Views expressed herein are solely those of the author or artist.

The *Picaro* is a member of the Canadian University Press, and of Campus Plus. We subscribe to the CUP Statement of Principles, and to its Code of Ethics.

The *Picaro* is located in Room 403 of Rosaria Centre. Feel free to drop by. Excuse the mess...

Picaro staff can be reached at 443-4450, ext. 195.

Ad rates are available by calling 443-4450, ext. 195.

Newspaper meetings are every Monday at noon.

Staff:

Co-Editors:
Jeffrey G. Mann
Sharon Rose

News Editor:
Paul Paquet

Entertainment Editor:
Robert Caume

Sports Editor:
Claudine Fougere

Office Manager:
Lisa Bugden

Graphics Manager:
Ross Edison Bowness

Business Manager:
Alex Dow

the *Picaro*

Faculty Association seeks recognition

by Barbara Dunbar

To be or not to be—again. That is the question—again. Although no faculty members at Mount Saint Vincent University claim the dilemmas of Hamlet, they have been asking themselves an important question lately: How are we going to gain formal recognition for the Faculty Association?

This is a significant issue with repercussions for all members of this university, from faculty to students to administration.

Right now, faculty are responding to a survey designed by the Faculty Association to discover how the membership feels about the present state. Depending upon the results of this survey, one of three things could happen:

- 1) Faculty will vote for unionization
- 2) Faculty will vote to adopt a Special Plan
- 3) The status quo will remain.

Dr. Margaret O'Brien, Faculty Association President, explains the reason for unrest. "We need a better system for negotiating the terms and conditions of our employment, one which will give faculty a more direct voice and a more equal voice in the decision-making process. Our Faculty Association now operates primarily as an advisory body."

O'Brien feels the terms and conditions of employment should be the exclusive concern of a Faculty Association and is dissatisfied with how University administration deals with matters pertaining to employment. "We have approached administration in the past with our concerns and they have refused to discuss them. Or their procedures are revised without us being consulted. All we want is the right to negotiate directly terms and conditions of our employment."

Thus, we have the survey and the three choices. The options of a faculty union and a Special Plan each have their own merits. Now it is up to the faculty to decide.

Faculty Unions operate under the provincial Labour Code. By law, a faculty union gains the exclusive bargaining rights for faculty with respect to terms and conditions of employment. As well, the employer is required to negotiate with the union in good faith.

A Special Plan has no legal status under the Labour Code. It is a 'gentleman's agreement' between a Faculty Association and a Board of Governors, in which the Board agrees to recognize the Faculty Association as the exclusive bargaining agent for faculty on the terms and conditions of employment and agrees

to negotiate in good faith. A Special Plan is a viable option when the Board is truly committed to the concept.

Most Canadian universities have either a union agreement or a Special Plan. O'Brien thinks it is time the Mount faculty finds a

better structure to resolve issues related to employment and to guarantee no other body can impose conditions of employment without serious negotiation with faculty.

There has already been an attempt to unionize Mount faculty.

In 1982-83, the percentage required for a certification vote (40 percent) was achieved but the certification vote failed. Perhaps this time it will not. Only time will tell.

Faculty must return their surveys by October 28. On October

30, the results will be ready and we will know what the faculty wishes to do.

Maybe a union? Maybe a Special Plan? Or maybe nothing will be changed? Those are the questions that remain to be answered.

Clips from council

by Paul Paquet

Sisters of Charity withdraw

The Sisters of Charity have announced their intention of passing on their last strands of control over the Mount to the corporation formed for this purpose, pending certain internal policy changes. Council was asked to select a representative. As more information becomes available, fuller accounts will appear in the *Picaro*.

Referendum resolved?

Councillor Robyn McIsaac presented the report of the Ad Hoc '87 Referendum Committee. The committee was struck to examine allegations that by not publishing the results of the referendum in *Picaro*, it had violat-

ed the Student Council Constitution, and that the result was therefore not binding on students. The referendum raised student union fees by 22 dollars.

McIsaac excused Council's oversight, saying that the results could not be printed in the last edition of last year's *Picaro* because the referendum had been extended past its deadline. She also says that the new Council saw no reason to print the results in the first *Picaro* of this year since the Constitution had already been violated. This contradicts earlier assertions that Council had been unaware of any discrepancy between their actions and the Constitution. Moreover, as late as Friday afternoon, McIsaac was attempting to have the first edition of this

year's *Picaro* declared a "special issue," thus providing a shaky report with extra ammunition.

McIsaac also quotes Dr. Michael MacMillan, Parliamentarian for the Senate at the Mount, who said that despite irregularities, the official results were not actually being challenged and that the results were binding.

Budgets passed

Council passed the Societies' budgets, including those that had not submitted budget requests. Treasurer Lisa Chippett said this was done in fairness to new societies that were in transitional states. Senate representative Karen Chilton questioned the allocation of \$800 to MANUS, since part-time students had vot-

ed against the fee increase.

In an effort to prevent societies from going over-budget, Council wants them to spend their own money first before using Council's. This raised objections from Councillor Tina Murphy, who felt societies had a right to money, and questioned the practice of examining the bank accounts of the societies.

Councillor Cheryl MacKenzie warned Council against rashly interpreting budget figures. "You don't understand the numbers," said MacKenzie. "Don't be surprised by the differential between some of these numbers, you'd laugh if you saw some of the reports (outlining budget requests from societies)."

Conference seeks end to education crisis

by Ann Godfrey

Post-secondary education in Canada is in crisis and something must be done about it, according to the Canadian Federation of Students.

On October 25 to 28, something is being done. A national forum on post-secondary education is being held in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan. This conference seeks to provide open discussion of the problems and issues facing post-secondary education in Canada. Over 500 participants are invited, among them, educators, students, business people and government.

Mount Saint Vincent University President Naomi Hersom, and sociology professor Jane

Gordon were selected as two of the 75 faculty members to represent universities from across the country. Only 50 students will participate. No students from the Mount were invited to attend.

To give MSVU students and faculty the chance to express their concerns, the Mount held a mini-forum on Oct. 22. "It's not important what 'I' think," says Gordon. "We need to know the concerns of the Mount as a community, so that we can take them to the national forum."

Staff and students agree the issue of funding must be addressed. "The critical lack of financial funding has increasingly affected how well we can do our

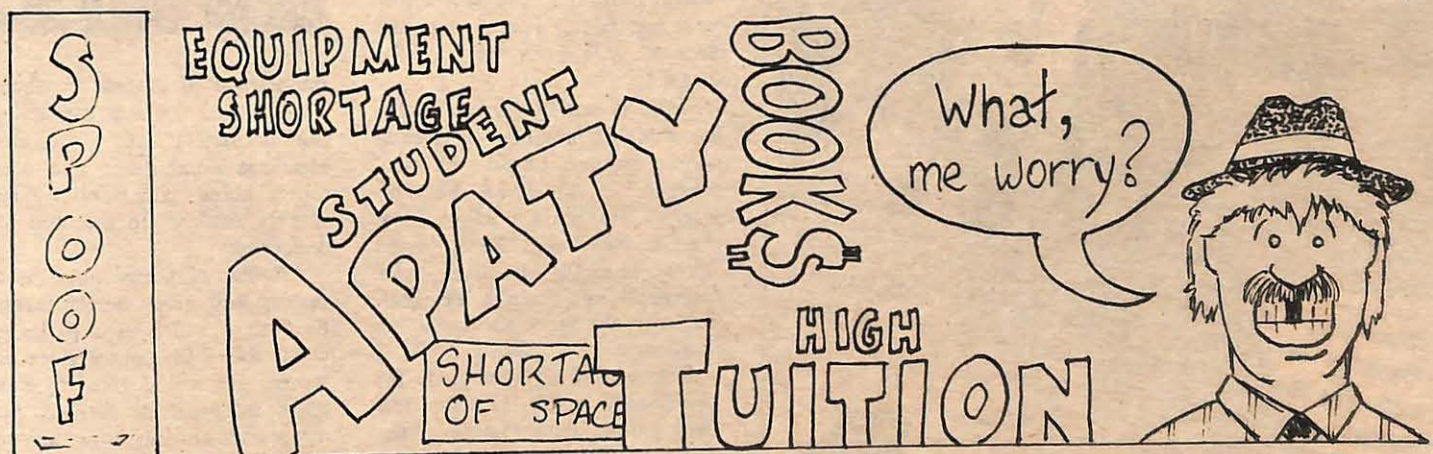
jobs," says Gordon. She adds that the lack of research funds, library resources and computer facilities, combined with growing class size, make it difficult to deliver quality education. "I think we do an astounding job with what is available," says Gordon. "We could do an even more amazing job with the appropriate funding."

Gordon and Hersom hope to address the special problems facing women who attend university. Facilities like childcare pose an even greater financial burden.

Students have other financial concerns as well, rising tuition being first on the list. Education should be accessible to every-

one, not a luxury only the wealthy can afford, insists Paul Card, vice-president of external affairs for the Mount's student council and Nova Scotia's national representative to the Canadian Federation of Students. "Nova Scotia has the highest tuitions in Canada, and I would like to see some answers as to why," he adds.

Answers seem to be what everyone is looking for. Both Card and Gordon fear the conference will be "just a lot of talk." However, they are optimistic the national forum will produce some concrete recommendations and solutions for the problems threatening the future of post-secondary education in Canada.



Mount PSE meeting draws one student

by Cheryl O'Connell

In preparation for the national Post-Secondary Education Forum in Saskatchewan, Mount Saint Vincent held an informal meeting in the Don MacNeil Room this past Thursday, Oct. 22. The meeting was announced in many classes throughout the week and was open to all concerned students, staff, and faculty. Upon arriving at the meeting, I was not surprised to find that I was the only student in attendance.

All other participants were either faculty or administration.

The meeting was set up so that President Naomi Hersom and Dr. Jane Gordon could bring local issues with them to the national forum. One of the major topics raised was that of accessibility of post-secondary education to all Canadians. This is a financial and social problem which has faced universities and colleges for some time. While Hersom raised some strong points about financial accessibility, Gordon was concerned

with restrictions still faced by women entering university.

Another concern voiced was the allotment of money by the federal government to the individual provinces for funding of post-secondary education. Hersom was concerned with the effort needed to "keep the provinces honest." She emphasized the need for provincial governments to prioritize their funding and use education money for education and not for other services.

The next issue raised, which is

especially relevant to Nova Scotia, is that of funding on the basis of in-province student enrollment. The province makes no effort to account for the expense of educating students coming in from other provinces. Hersom feels this problem is especially acute in Nova Scotia where the influx of students from other provinces is overwhelming.

The next idea presented was that of proper representation of students' interests at the national forum. It was suggested that the

inclusion of student representatives from high schools as well as from universities and colleges, would increase input from those who would be most affected by any outcome of the conference.

A final concern expressed by Gordon was that the conference not be an "expensive PR job." She hopes issues raised at the forum will be taken seriously by politicians and legislation will be initiated to settle some of the pressing problems of post-secondary education.

CFS to make contact

by Susan Trenholm

"Funding the Future—The Year We Make Contact" is the theme for this year's semi-annual general meeting of the Canadian Federation of Students, (C.F.S.), in Ottawa next month. The theme refers to the federation's commitment to work more closely with business and government to represent the concerns of Canada's 450,000 post-secondary students.

Representing the Mount will be Student Council President,

Jan Thomas, Cheryl MacKenzie, senate representative and Paul Card, external vice-president.

Card, Nova Scotia's national executive representative to the federation, sees this meeting as an important one. "For small universities like the Mount this lobbying function is especially important," he says. "The Mount is just too small to ever lobby a big institution like the federal government. By working with C.F.S. we have some real muscle."

Some of the major issues Card expects to be discussed at the meeting include the implications for higher learning of the Meech Lake Accord, and the importance of the first-ever national forum on post-secondary education, to be held in Saskatoon next month. "This forum is very, very important," he says. "We will definitely be hoping to see something come out of it."

On a regional level, Card is going to address the issue of Nova Scotia having the highest

tuition rates in the country. "Students are having to take out an educational mortgage and come out of university with a \$10 to \$15 thousand loan. It just shouldn't be like this," he says.

Card also plans to raise the issue of the high differential fees which international students must pay when studying in Nova Scotia. "Right now these students are paying about \$1700 a year in addition to regular tuition fees. Some provinces don't

even have these differentials. The situation is totally out of control," says Card.

In addition to these topical lobbying activities, a wide variety of services which the federation offers to students will also be discussed. These include, Travel CUTS, Canada's national student travel company, Studentsaver, a student discount program, SWAP, the student work abroad program and the Canadian Student Accident and Sickness Health Plan.

JANA POETSCHKE

Give a *personalized* gift this Christmas
OR
for that Special Birthday

CARICATURES:

- * In person or from photographs
- * Single person or group
- * Personalized Christmas, Birthday, Wedding Invitation cards



CARTOONING
DESIGN & ILLUSTRATION

6221 Coburg Road
Halifax, Nova Scotia
B3H 1Z8
Tel: 429-3167

Gillis brings the power of PR to student union

by Cheryl O'Connell

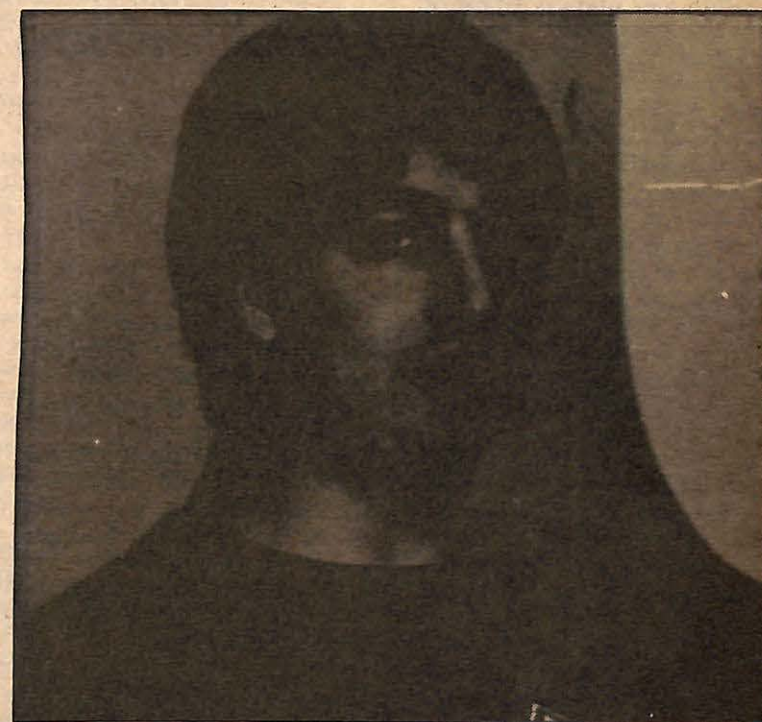
Chris Gillis is a fourth-year Public Relations student who came to the Mount from Campbellton, New Brunswick. As he jokes, "I came here because there were a lot of women at the Mount."

Actually, he came because of the excellent Public Relations degree program offered here. This is his first involvement with Student Union, and he starts as PR manager for this year's council. His position is appointed and is a non-voting one. His basic duties are the advertising and promotion of Student Union and its activities.

Gillis gives the impression of a person who really enjoys the challenges of his position. He is happy with his colleagues. "I think we have a very ambitious council," says Gillis. He has set many goals for the upcoming year and adds, "I'm quite confident we will reach many of the goals."

Gillis is not being cocky. He has a lot of previous experience which suggests he will be successful. In the past he has worked for the Canadian Save the Children Fund, the Spryfield Days Summer Festival and Campbellton's Salmon Festival. He loves the work and loves the challenge.

One of Gillis' main goals for the coming year is to make Student Union more visible to the student body. He says, "Student Union needs a better image." He is also convinced of the



importance of student feedback. To this end, he has assisted in the formation of a communications committee. The committee helps with publicity and acts as an "ear" to the students' concerns.

Another of Gillis' goals is to restore the electronic information board which used to be located above the corner store entrance. He would like to make the board available to staff, faculty, and students—to anyone who has a message they would like posted. This could be a boom to communication and

student involvement in campus activities.

Gillis would like to see an increase in involvement and a decrease in student apathy. About boosting spirit, he says, "A lot of it is timing. Chemistry is important. It's a combination of a lot of things."

Chris believes he can achieve what he has set out to do. He's an energetic person who is willing to work. He also sincerely enjoys his work on council. Says Gillis, "I love it. Of all the PR jobs I've had, this is the best one."

SPEEDY PRINT



Whiteprinting • Instant Printing • Offset Printing
Typesetting • Layout & Design • Film Processing
Microfilming Services & Equipment • Engineering &
Architectural Supplies • Basic Computer Sales

6100 Young Street, Halifax, Nova Scotia B3K 2A4
(902) 455-0411



Study understates student debt problem

OTTAWA (CUP)—Over 17,000 post-secondary students had debt loads of over \$10,000 in 1985-86, a recently released government analysis of student debt load has revealed.

The study, which also shows that 1,830 students have debt loads of over \$15,000, was based on Canada Student Loans data for those full-time students who negotiated a student loan during the 1985-86 loan year. Provincial student loan information was also supplied by B.C., Alberta, and Ontario.

Critics say the government is trying to understate the problem of high student debt load in Canada. A government press release on the study said "over 80 percent of the post-secondary students with student loans graduated with total student loan debts of less than \$10,000."

"The figures don't concur with the ones I had, which were that most students had debts of \$12,000 to \$20,000 coming out of bachelor programmes," said Bill Rompkey, Liberal secretary of state critic. "But even if they are right, a \$10,000 debt load is nothing to gloat about. 'The attitude underlying this is that students are privileged,' said Rompkey, 'and the government is saying to students: 'you are lucky to be where you are and here's your degree and your \$10,000 debt load, so good luck

to you'," said Rompkey.

Mary Meloshe, Director of the Student Assistance Directorate for the federal government said the researchers themselves were surprised at the results of the study. "Considering the articles in the media in the past year concerning students struggling with very high debt loads, we were surprised to find that the majority of students have debts of less than \$10,000," she said. "This does not mean that there's not a problem with debt load. Debt at any level can be a problem depending on one's resources," said Meloshe.

The study found that loans are distributed relatively evenly between men and women, that half of the negotiators are 21 years or younger, and that Arts and Sciences students are the most common debtors (40 percent). It also noted that the average accumulated debt load was \$4,796. Of the students who owed more than \$15,000, most were male (61 percent) and older than 25 years and 20 percent were studying medicine.

Meloshe emphasized that the study was "very limited" in scope. "We didn't have any good sources to go through," she said, "We had to rely on the administrative data from the federal and provincial aid programmes. But the brains to do it can get where they want to go."

Rompkey said the Canada Students Loans Act is outdated. It was introduced in 1964, a time when summer employment was much more available for students and employment after graduation was easily found.

"Our society has got to face up to its responsibility. We can't afford not to invest in education. There's a saying: if you think education is expensive; try ignorance." it does give us a handle on the kind of debt loads students are carrying."

Meloshe said that while the majority of final year students had debt loads at the "low end of the indebtedness scale" some had debts in excess of \$20,000. "Sure, there are some students out there with high debt loads, but the question is, is that a problem? If a med student comes out of his final year of internship with a high debt load, is that necessarily a problem?" she asked.

Secretary of State David Crombie also announced the formation of a new Advisory Group to undertake a "comprehensive" review of federal student aid. The group will be made up of various interested groups including the Canadian Federation of Students, the Canadian Organization of Part-Time University Students, and

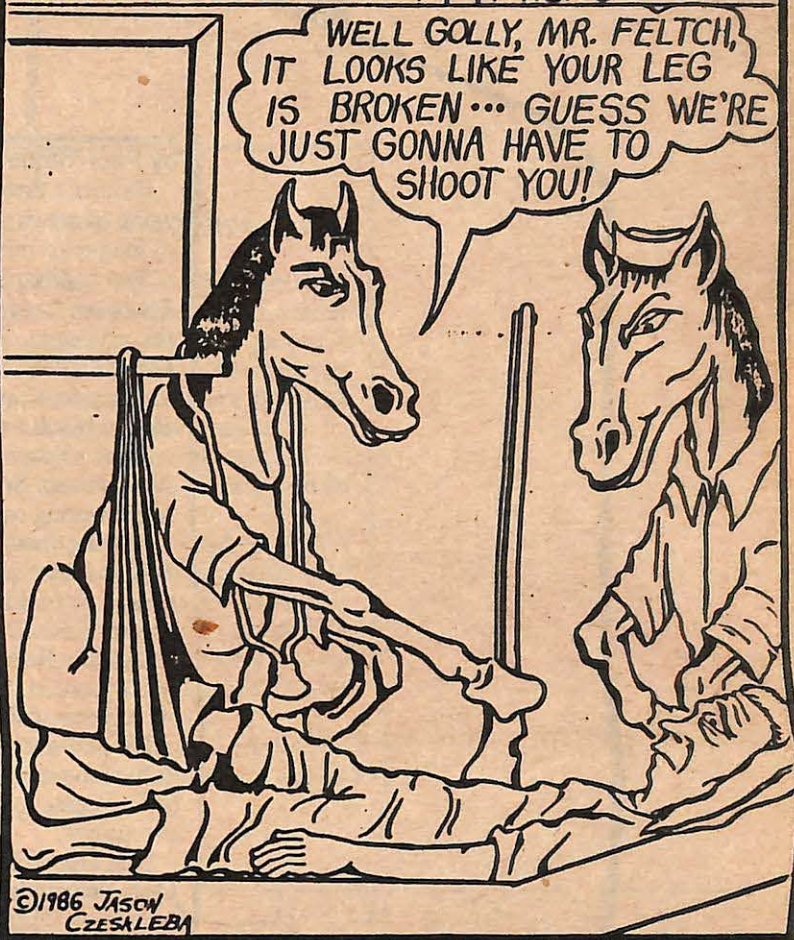
the National Educational Association of Disabled Students. Provincial ministers of education have also agreed to establish an intergovernmental consultative committee on financial aid to coordinate federal and provincial assistance programmes.

Meloshe said Crombie plans to review the Canada Student

Loans Act and to introduce improvements by August of 1988.

But Rompkey wants more than a review. "We don't need to strike another committee to massage the system we already have. We have got to change the whole philosophy toward student aid in Canada to a system of bursaries, so that anybody with

ONE GOOD REASON TO AVOID HOSPITALS WHICH ARE STAFFED BY HORSES...



PR opens more doors

by Michelle Whelan

Approximately 40 of the 86 new students taking the public relations program this year are transfer students. The majority of these people already have an undergraduate degree.

"When you come out of high school, how are you supposed to know what you want to do?" says GERALYN KERR. "I was almost finished my Bachelor of Commerce before I realized that commerce might not be for me." Now she is trying PR.

Some of these students are choosing PR because of the broad scope of job opportunities it offers upon completion of the degree. Rosa Ward has a Bachelor of Science. She chose the PR program because she is interested in working in tourism.

"I didn't apply for the tourism and hospitality management program because I thought it might be too restrictive," says Ward. "Besides, with PR I might be able to use my science degree."

Another drawing card attracting students to the PR program is the co-op option. "The kind of things I wanted to do as a career and the kind of opportunities my Bachelor of Arts opened up to me didn't match," says Paul Paquet, who is interested in lobbying. "I want a variety of work experience and co-op offers that."

Ideally, these students would like to be completing a masters degree. But if it's PR that interests them, they don't have that option here at the Mount.

Kathy Hagen is a political science major. She would like to work in the practical side of politics and feels the PR program will sharpen the skills she needs to become efficient in that area. "I wanted to do a masters but that doesn't exist in PR," says Hagen. After spending a year in the program, she is

convinced a PR degree should be offered at the masters level.

Susan Trenholm agrees. "Another bachelor degree is of no value to me," although she added, "I don't regret having done a bachelor of science."

All of these students feel their undergraduate degrees serve as a good background and will be an asset to them in the PR job market. Although having two degrees won't guarantee job security, it certainly enhances the odds.

Atlantic Bowl goes aerobic

by Kelly Gallant

The Mount will be represented at this year's Atlantic Bowl. Although not playing football, our team will be on the field, at least during halftime.

Coordinator for the Nova Scotia Sport Heritage Foundation, Bill Robinson, has asked the Mount Athletics Department to provide halftime entertainment at the University league playoff between the divisional winners from the Atlantic provinces and the Ontario/Quebec conference.

A team of five fitness instructors from the Mount will be performing a two-and-a-half minute aerobic routine as part of the halftime entertainment. Team members Lynn Kazamel-Boudreau, Lisa Boudreau, Cathy

Windsor, Kim Richardson and Linda McLeod have been practicing their routine three to five hours a week for the past month.

This is the first time these women have worked together on a performance routine, though they all teach aerobics classes at the Mount.

A two-and-a-half minute performance may not seem long, but "it can prove to be physically exhausting when you're performing an intense aerobic routine," McLeod says. The aerobic team will run, jump and somersault to the upbeat rhythm of the latest version of Funky Town.

Over the four days of scheduled Atlantic Bowl events, the Mount aerobic team will perform their routine three times.

THIS TAPE IS NOT ONLY FREE, IT'S PRICELESS.

You probably own several tapes that look like this one. And you probably paid money to own them.

But this tape is different. Not only is it free, it's priceless because it contains a valuable message. In words and song, this tape explains that through Jesus Christ, our Heavenly Father has provided the plan for us to find peace and happiness in this life and beyond.

To get your free copy of this priceless tape, call our toll-free number. It's a gift—without obligation.

1-800-565-1141

THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS



Amnesty International

seeking freedom for prisoners of conscience

by Paul Paquet

Halifax's three Amnesty International groups have completed a week of activities designed to bring to the city's attention the plight of long-term prisoners of conscience throughout the world.

The Bedford-Sackville group sponsored a table at Scotia Square on Thursday that gathered approximately 200 signatures on appeals for ten prisoners. The Dartmouth group held a similar activity at the Grace United Church, while the Halifax Peninsula group had a "Run for Freedom" at Point Pleasant Park which focused on Kang Jong-Hon, a North Korean who has been imprisoned for over 20 years.

Over a dozen prisoners were selected by Amnesty International's International Secretariat as cases to be highlighted in a world-wide letter-writing campaign.

Among them are Yusuf Osman Samantar, a Somali lawyer, held without trial since 1969. Samantar has been held without charge or trial for his refusal to support the ruling Somali Revolutionary Socialist Party.

Catholic Bishop Peter Joseph Fan Xueyen has been held for nearly 30 years in the People's Republic of China for the expression of his religious beliefs, and is believed to be in poor health.

The statistics on human rights abuses worldwide are staggering. Half of the world's nations hold prisoners of conscience, and a third of them practice torture. Two-thirds of the world's nations sanction executions.

Bob Goodfellow, president of the English-speaking half of AI's Canadian section, says that it is crucial for people to understand AI's mandate. "There is a lot of misunderstanding about what Amnesty does and does not do. Put simply, we oppose arbitrary arrest, arbitrary detention and torture."

Goodfellow explains that there is a difference between political prisoners and prisoners of conscience. "Prisoners of conscience are a subdivision of political prisoners. Prisoners of conscience are people who conscientiously hold, and non-violently express beliefs, and as

a consequence suffer imprisonment." Goodfellow says Nelson Mandela is a good example of a political prisoner who, because of ambiguous statements concerning violence, cannot also be considered a prisoner of conscience.

AI believes in the unconditional release of prisoners of conscience, and requests fair and prompt trials for political prisoners. It opposes the execution of any prisoner: political or otherwise.

Accuracy and impartiality are cornerstones of the organization's work. It has been accused of being both a front for communists and a tool of capitalists. Yet it is also recognized worldwide for its impartiality, maintained even at the expense of some of the organization's sponsors. In 1978, Amnesty won the Nobel Peace Prize.

Says Goodfellow, "Amnesty doesn't say that a certain political grouping or ideology is better than any other at securing human rights. We promote universal, internationally-recognized standards including the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights."

Amnesty International is also characterized by its low profile in its diplomacy. The usual AI tactic is to flood the offices of people capable of releasing prisoners of conscience with requests to reexamine the case. This process will often take years, but the prisoners AI has adopted have been released before the expiration of their sentences. Although AI doesn't take credit for the release of prisoners, Dartmouth Group Chairperson Peggy McDonald adds that "in Canada, we can talk about issues that people in other countries cannot, we're not perfect but we are blessed in that way."

A hot issue for the Canadian Section are the proposed immigration bills before Parliament. Goodfellow expressed concern that refugees fleeing political persecution in their native countries be denied entry to Canada.

Criticizing specific elements of C-55 and C-84 that



nal

isoners of conscience

Man- use of onsid- con- ers. It tion's s and cred- ers it

mechanize the refugee process, Goodfellow says that "every refugee who comes to a country has a story, and someone should hear that story."

Although AI groups are prohibited from sponsoring prisoners in their own country, they are allowed to pursue political issues and AI is campaigning against the refugee bills at a number of levels. Rallies have been held in Toronto, and AI representatives are lobbying Ottawa politicians. AI also held a press conference before the Commonwealth Conference to condemn human rights abuses that are occurring in most Commonwealth countries.

The growth of Amnesty International has been astonishing. In 1961, Peter Benenson wrote an article called "The Forgotten Prisoners" in the London Observer and began an international letter-writing campaign to secure the release of several Portuguese men arrested for proposing a toast to freedom. The efforts were so successful that Amnesty International was born the following year.

The road has often been rocky. AI's decision to denounce capital punishment cost it a number of supporters, including magazine editor William F. Buckley. The West German section jeopardized AI's impartiality in the 70's when it acted on behalf of members of the Bader-Meinhoff Gang, a German terrorist group working towards Marxist revolutionary aims. Efforts to set up an AI group in Moscow have been frustrated by resistance from the Soviet government.

Yet its successes have also been notable. While foreign correspondents in Tanzania decided to overlook President Julius Nyerere's human rights abuses, because of their infatuation with his program of African socialism, AI acted on its leads and broke the story.

AI has also found political prisoners in a number of interesting places. In last week's *Picaro*, we carried a report about Leonard Peltier, an American Indian framed for murder by the FBI. The Canadian Government has been criticized for its handling of the

Archimbault prison riot in 1985.

Yet with half a million members in a hundred and fifty countries, AI continues to grow.

The Conspiracy of Hope Tour, which featured acts such as Tears for Fears and Simple Minds, inundated AI's American Section with young volunteers. "Students are at a stage in life when they can think about socio-political issues," says Halifax Group Chairperson Alex Neeves. "It is an easy way to take action. You don't just go to lectures and nod your head saying how horrible everything is."

Famous Canadian AI members include Bryan Adams, Shirley Carr, John Turner, Liona Boyd, Pierre Burton, Daryl Sittler, Donald Sutherland and David Suzuki.

The first group in Metro was established in 1974, and in 1984 it split into three new groups. Although still struggling with limited resources and small size, some Atlantic groups have had notable success, particularly Group 60 in St. John's, Newfoundland. Last year Group 60 had the Mayor of that city declare "Amnesty International Week," and information on political prisoners was disseminated through cable television and the local newspaper.

The next meeting of Group 108, located in Bedford-Sackville, will be at 8 pm on November 18 at the Rosaria Coffeeshop, across the cafeteria.

CRY FREEDOM



CFS dumping controversial policies?

OTTAWA (CUP)—The most controversial policies of the Canadian Federation of Students Policy Manual will likely fall off the books in November, says CFS Chair Tony Macerollo.

Policies advocating Canada's withdrawal from NATO and NO-RAD, opposing cruise missile testing, supporting the efforts of Chilean and El Salvadorean students, the Canadian Labour Congress, and gays and lesbians

on campus and others, were adopted in 1982 and must be re-introduced and passed by a two-thirds majority at the upcoming general meeting if they are to remain as official CFS policy.

"I don't think it's even going to be a debate," said Macerollo. "In order to debate these issues members would have had to serve due notice of policy motions and the deadline was last Friday. Even if there were a de-

bate, I think it (the vote to reinstate the policies) would be close...real close."

Macerollo sees no reason for the national executive of CFS to generate support for the outgoing policies. "The organization mirrors its members," he said. "Is there any reason for us to alter the image if its members don't change? I'm not sure it should," he said.

He said members were informed of the five-year sunset clause on the '82 policies at the Spring meeting, but no one has served notice of policy motions.

Macerollo said the policies have been a factor in the failure of CFS to attract some of the larger schools such as U of T, Western, and Queens. "There are (objections to joining) that recur: the issue of weighted voting (whether larger schools should have more votes), the expense of joining, non-educational issues (in the CFS policy) and the feeling that education is a provincial responsibility."

Though those are the stated rationales, Macerollo thinks there are more fundamental reasons for some student councils' lack of interest in a national student lobby organization. "There is a real inability to understand just how involved the

federal government really is in education," said Macerollo.

This is Macerollo's second year as chair of CFS. He first became involved with the organization in 1984 when he was vice-president (education) on the student council of Ottawa's Carleton University. At that time, Macerollo was skeptical about CFS.

"That was the year debates on non-educational issues hit their peak. There were huge emotional debates about NATO and NO-RAD, El Salvador, Nicaragua, nuclear installations in Canada..." he said.

Though Macerollo says he was "very skeptical" at that time, he didn't start a campaign to pull Carleton out of the organization. "I felt Carleton had invested time and money in the organization and it was not up to me to say it has been a waste of money."

He also doesn't think the current membership will re-adopt the 1982 policies at the November meeting, and doesn't think there will be as much objection to discussing those issues.

"In 1984, people said 'we shouldn't discuss 'non-educational issues'—they used that phrase. Now they realize that we can't have a constitutional provision that limits the kind of things

you can represent your students on."

Macerollo divides his time between meeting with federal government representatives and drumming up support for the Federation on campuses across the country. In September and October he has visited close to 20 campuses in B.C., Ontario and Newfoundland.

Currently CFS has 57 member associations. Student unions can join or drop out of CFS only by holding campus-wide referenda to decide whether students will pay \$4 each to belong to the organization. Referenda are upcoming at six campuses next month: Guelph, Wilfrid Laurier, Waterloo, Capilano College, Douglas College, and Malaspina College. The University of Ottawa served notice last week that it will hold a pullout referendum in February.

The Federation has a budget of \$600,000 which covers the cost of maintaining a national office in Ottawa, two general meetings each year, campaign materials (pamphlets, posters) and staff travel. CFS employs nine full-time staff members: an elected chair, an executive officer, a researcher, an information officer, a financial coordinator, and four field workers. Seven of the staff members are unionized.

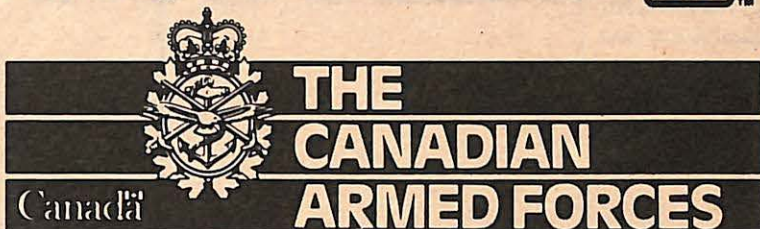
We offer a university education and a career to make the most of it.

Ask about the Canadian Forces Regular Officer Training Plan.

You have initiative, leadership qualities and are determined to succeed! This may be the plan for you. Upon acceptance the Canadian Forces will subsidize your education at a Canadian military college or a mutually selected Canadian university. We offer you a good income, tuition, books and supplies, dental and health care and a month's vacation if your training schedule allows. On graduation you will be commissioned as an officer and begin work in your chosen field.

It's your choice, your future.

For more information on plans, entry requirements and opportunities, visit the recruiting centre nearest you or call collect — we're in the yellow pages under recruiting.



Telephone registration saves time, money

VICTORIA (CUP)—By next summer, students at the University of Victoria should be registering for classes over the phone—to a computer.

UVic will join hundreds of U.S. institutions as well as the universities of Alberta and Toronto in implementing telephone registration.

The Voice Response System (VRS) is an intercept computer between a student's touch-tone telephone and the university's main computer. After connecting with the VRS the student will be

guided through a pre-recorded script. Information can only be entered through a touch-tone telephone; all input must be numerical.

"The current system requires students to come to campus in June, a journey which can be of considerable cost to some individuals," said Cled Thomas, UVic Registrar. The VRS unit will verify a student's identity, check eligibility, keep track of section enrollment, deny registration in a full section, check registration restrictions, and al-

low students to add and drop courses.

Thomas noted that presently, if students cannot come to early registration, they must wait until September and risk the chance of full courses. VRS will simply make registration more available to students.

UVic already has a main computer, and the VRS runs at roughly \$100,000. Currently the university spends more than \$20,000 a year on registration staff for the computer card system, described by Thomas as "old technology."

Art's Pond

by Steve Jennex



Native march protests funding change

OTTAWA (CUP)—About 1,500 native Canadians marched to Parliament Hill last week to protest formula funding of native schools and new government limitations on funding for post-secondary education. Carrying signs which read, "Save our future generations—stop formula funding," and "Canada is afraid of educated Onkwehonwe," natives marched to the hill to present a petition on native education to members of parliament. Native leaders addressed the crowd.

"We have not come here as beggars," said Gilbert Whiteduck, director of the First Nations Education Council of Quebec. "In our treaties, the government promised to fund Indian education for all our people, for all levels (of education), but they haven't lived up to that promise."

Until 1986-87, all natives who applied to a post-secondary institution received full funding through the Post Secondary Education Assistance Programme. In 1986, for the first time, a limit was put on the programme's budget and in May 1987, further restrictions to eligibility were announced. This fall, many native students found themselves enrolled in programmes they could not afford.

The march, organized by the Assembly of First Nations, brought busloads of natives,

many of them school children, from as far away as British Columbia.

George Erasmus, National Chief of the AFN, questioned the rationale of the federal government in limiting funds for native education. "Just at a time when our young people are deciding to stay in school, and slowly they are starting to come back to their communities to properly represent themselves, to become employed, to carry out their dreams, the government is cutting them off."

"The cost to keep someone on social assistance is higher than the cost of giving them a university education. Whether we had treaty rights or not, it doesn't make any kind of sense for Canada not to enthusiastically encourage young people to go to university," he said.

Jo Norton, chief of the Mohawks of Kahnawaki was less diplomatic. "We are angry and we won't stand for what this government is trying to do," he said. "Our community is tired of being told that yes, you have the right to develop and plan and become educated, and then a new government or a new minister of Indian Affairs comes along and takes the money away," said Norton, who brought 11 busloads to the rally from Quebec.

"We demand more resources now, and if that means someone

else is going to have to do without, so what? And if it means someone else has to suffer, well, so what? We have been suffering for centuries. And if we have to become physical and if we have to create confrontations then maybe that's what we'll have to do," he added.

Whiteduck said the AFN had asked Prime Minister Brian Mulroney to receive the petition, which outlines native rights to education and to control over their own education and was signed by 5,000 native people from Quebec. The Prime Minister declined. "I guess we just aren't important enough," he said.

Liberal MP's Keith Penner and Warren Allmand received the petition and promised to raise the issue in the House of Commons. "Unemployment among Inuit and Indian people is many times higher than the national average," said Penner. "Welfare is debilitating and insulting. This government is restricting and limiting funding for education and at the same time it is spending millions to sell the Canadian people on a trade deal to the United States and it is prepared to spend billions on nuclear powered submarines. I say to the prime minister: wake up. Get your priorities straight."

After the presentation of the petition, the demonstrators formed a huge circle on the lawn in front of the centre block.

Some played traditional drums and sang while the bells in the clock tower chimed in disharmony behind them.

"I want to study translation so I can go back to my community and teach," said a young high school student from Res-tigouche, Quebec, explaining why she wants to go on to uni-

versity. "I hope we'll be able to afford it."

Another teenage boy from Weymontachie, also in Quebec, said he didn't know if he would go to university. "I'm going to try," he said. "It depends on this (pointing to his head) and it depends on them (pointing to the parliament buildings)."

Abortion coalition anticipates government hostility

VANCOUVER (CUP)—They're expecting police arrests and attempted closure by the government, but a coalition of B.C. groups is determined to open the province's first free-standing abortion clinic.

The broad-based B.C. Coalition for Abortion Clinics (BCCAC) is part of a national campaign to de-criminalize abortion, and establish free-standing clinics throughout B.C. and Canada to provide safe, supportive and accessible abortion services to women. Coalition organizers say the Vancouver-based clinic is long-awaited, as many women seeking an abortion are dangerously delayed by bureaucratic hospital boards, or forced to travel outside the province or country.

"This is a matter of safe, adequate medical services that women are entitled to have," Vancouver city councillor, Libby Davies, told a recent press conference. "A woman's right to safe abortion is part of that fundamental right to medical care."

Only 250 out of Canada's 860 accredited hospitals, and 38 out of 115 in B.C., have therapeutic abortion committees, according to Pat Brighthouse of Concerned Citizens for Choice on Abor-

tion. "Meanwhile, those that do provide services are constantly under attack," she said. "Governments waste our money prosecuting staff of free-standing clinics."

Abortion is listed as a criminal offence under the federal criminal code; something the coalition wants to see repealed.

"It is not the right of the state to deny women freedom of choice," said United Church Minister Linda Ervin. "Women have the right to make choices for their own bodies," she said, adding that the church and community have a responsibility to provide support for women who have an abortion.

From the University of British Columbia Students for Choice to the Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners, coalition members say Canada is facing a crisis in access to safe and legal abortions, especially for native women, immigrants, and those living outside urban centres where abortion clinics are most often located.

Brighthouse said no abortions were performed in Prince Edward Island between 1982 and 1985, and women seeking an abortion in Saskatchewan have to go to Saskatoon to even be consid-

ered. The result, say coalition members, is either unwanted pregnancies, costly trips to the U.S. for an abortion, or unsafe and traumatic experiences in B.C.

According to Eileen Jarrett of Canadian Abortion Rights Action League (CARAL), 82 percent of abortions in the U.S. are performed at free-standing clinics, and 50 percent are done at eight weeks of pregnancy or less. In Canada, she says, only 25 percent of abortions are done at eight weeks or less.

Instead of the constant battle to establish fair, non-partisan hospital boards, the coalition has shifted its focus to pushing for legal, government-supported free-standing clinics. Not only will the clinics provide cheaper, safer and more humane services, they say, they will directly challenge the illegality of abortion.

"The public really doesn't have control of who sits on those (hospital) committees," said Maggie Thompson, BCCAC coordinator. "That is not a fair or representative system," she said, adding that the Vancouver clinic will be able to serve a much broader range of women.

LICENSED DANCING

O'TOOLE'S

★ ROADHOUSE RESTAURANT ★

Hallowe'en Party
Friday, October 30
Saturday, October 31
Prizes for best costume
Win a waterbed
Saturday night

OTOOLE'S
TO-NITE

961 Bedford Hwy. Mt. Cove Market Bedford 835-6690

Graduation Portraits



by
J. Adams
Master of
Photographic
Arts

6.50 plus
tax

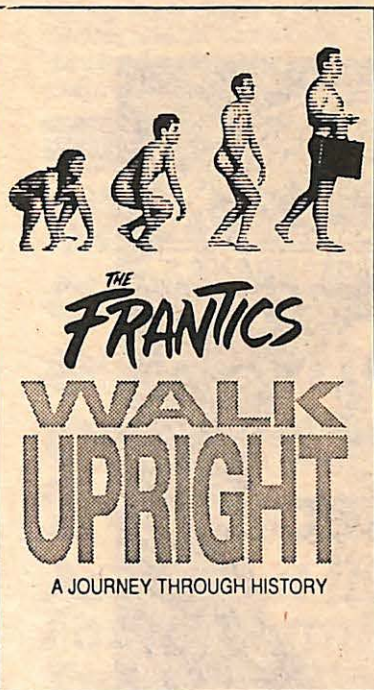
SIX PROOFS TO KEEP

982 Barrington Street
423-7089 422-3946

Walk Upright with the Frantics

by Christine Gallant

The Frantics, a hilarious comedy troupe from Ontario, kept a capacity crowd in stitches on Wednesday night at the Cohn. The Walk Upright Show is touring Canada, educating the public about the



evolution of life and civilization through the Frantics' bizarre and farcical perspective.

These guys are funny. You may have caught them on their CBC television show, *Four On The Floor*, or on CBC radio. The troupe consists of four yuppies who take making people laugh seriously. Paul Chado, Rick Green, Dan Redican and Peter Wildman, all left practical, 'sensible' occupations at bay to pursue their desire to perform as comedians.

In shirts and ties, the initial impression was deceiving. But their formal appearances soon disappeared as they broke into ridiculous skits, so completely original and unexpected that the audience was left rolling in the aisles.

The Frantics escorted us on a journey through the history of the universe beginning with God sneezing out earth, through the evolution of human life from a single-celled form in a slightly fast-forward speed, to Roman orgies and many other historical events.

It was a lot of information to squeeze into two hours, but the Frantics did it with humor and ease. Dan Redican, the musician

of the four, created many tunes to give the show more variety. Generally the props and set used were very simple. Old hockey sticks, brooms, pots and pans kept the skits fun and uncomplicated. The fat and skinny ensemble added humor to histori-

cally famous figures.

The humor was certainly enjoyed by all ages, though the crowd seemed to consist mainly of younger and yuppie folk. Everyone seemed to be familiar with the Frantics since the audience was cheering with ex-

citement before the show began. It concluded with a simulated nuclear explosion and the regression back to the dinosaur age. The audience was left standing on their feet with applause.

The 'Walk Upright Show' is available on album.

Bananarama, Not worth mentioning

by Christine Gallant

If you heard *Venus* by Bananarama (seemingly a theme song for Wednesday night at the pub) you will not be surprised by their latest album, *wow*. If you liked *Venus*, you will like this newest release. If you did not like *Venus*, well...Basically *wow* consists of synthetic technopop tunes with one sentence songs. This music has no

depth. If you are not turned on by the three hot chicks who are Bananarama, there isn't much more.

However, some people say that Siobhan, Keren, and Sarah are exciting. These girls are from the U.K. and have a diverse repertoire including journalism, and hat-check, before they decided to rule the pop scene. "Never give up. Ain't life a

bitch. You gotta keep on going, 'til you strike it rich." is from the *Strike It Rich* cut on *wow*. They did write nine of the 10 songs—somehow that doesn't surprise me.

Other songs worth mentioning, for those of you who care, include Nathan Jones and I Heard a Rumour—although I am not sure why I mentioned them.



New Order: uninteresting experience

by Paul Paquet

In an effort to widen their audiences, alternative performers have taken to a very mainstream marketing tactic. Both Kate Bush and The Cure have released successful "greatest hits" packages, and other performers seem to have gotten the message.

New Order, formerly Joy Division, has released a compilation album called *Substance* that includes what can be loosely described as their greatest hits, including *Blue Monday* and *Confusion*.

Put together after the suicide of Joy Division's Ian Curtis, New Order took its name from Hitler's vision of Europe, and their inspiration changed overnight from the Velvet Underground and the Doors to Kraftwerk and Brian Eno. Joy Division incidentally, has an equally unappealing origin, referring to the sections of Nazi concentration camps where prisoners were routinely raped and beaten for the amusement of Nazi officers.

Listening to a full album of New Order's deadpan synthesizer pop is an oddly uninteresting experience. Although *Blue Monday* is just peachy within the confines of the Cabbagetown dance floor, it loses something on your walkman, especially if you are absorbed with any of life's more mundane activities. Listening to several consecutive

New Order tracks reminds you just how restrictive this genre of music really is, even for a fairly innovative band like New Order.

Substance is a nice souvenir

of a musical style that is rapidly passing into history. Think of it as an 80's version of The Essential Jimi Hendrix, and you can gauge its importance to your record collection.



Happy Mondays

by Chris Gallant

For something completely different, try Happy Mondays debut album *Squirrel and G-Man Twenty-four Hour Party People Plastic Face Carot Smile (White Out)*. I am serious, and the band says that it doesn't really mean anything at all. It is simply a collection of off-the-cuff remarks, nicknames and other odds and ends. But the eccentricity doesn't stop there, the music and lyrics are similarly constructed with a bombardment of one-liners and seemingly out-of-place

words. The six band members are from Manchester, England, and are all into different things. Their influences range from the Beatles to the Rolling Stones as well as everything in between. The sound is grainy 60's pop meeting the 80's, resulting in a combination of the Cult and the Who. The strong, raw vocals and "real" guitar categorizes Happy Mondays far from the synthetic music scene. Just pronounce the first cut *Kuff Dam* backwards to get the essence of this new album.

One woman's account of her life as a survivor of childhood incest

To a SAFER PLACE

National premiere!
Theatre A, Burke Education Bldg.
Saint Mary's University
8 PM, Tuesday, November 3
The filmmaker and Shirley Turcotte, the subject of the film, will attend and will be available to answer questions.

A film directed by
Beverly Shaffer
Produced by Studio D
National Film Board of Canada

National Film Board of Canada Office national du film du Canada

STREETS

Annual Summer
Clearance Sale

**Savings
Up To**

**70%
OFF**

YOUR NEW JEANERY

Esprit Collection 40% off

Mens & Ladies jeans \$14.99 to \$29.99 regular up to \$45.00

Ladies Cords \$24.99 regular up to \$53.99

These are the best of times

Levi's

KODAK 866

Working hard doesn't mean giving up comfort and style. For the quality and fit you want, there's only one choice: Levi's Red Tabs. 501's for men, 531's for women. And they last as long as memories. Mark's Work Wearhouse carries Levi's Red Tabs in a full range of styles and sizes. And this semester, at any Mark's Work Wearhouse store, your student card lets you enter to win one of 20 \$1,000 scholarships* from Levi's and Mark's.

Levi's 501's for men. **\$44.95**

Levi's 531's for women. **\$39.95**

* No purchase necessary. See your local Mark's Work Wearhouse for details.

\$1,000 SCHOLARSHIP DRAW ENTRY FORM

To enter, drop this form off at any Mark's Work Wearhouse store prior to November 15, 1987.

Name

Address

Telephone Student I.D.

University, College or
Technical Institute

Draw will be made December 15, 1987. Winners must correctly answer a time-limited skill testing question.

**W Mark's Work
Wearhouse**
More than just great workwear.