

the picaro

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msvu



SNOW
IS
A
FOUR
LETTER
WORD



Letters to the Editor:

Dear Editor:

I would like to comment on the attack on exams carried in the Jan. 29 edition of the Picaro.

First, we all dislike tests, Any tests. For example, we dislike taking the driving tests one has to pass to get a driver's license. But those tests tell us who can drive and who cannot. My point: so sometimes we should have tests, even though we dislike them.

Second, we especially dislike tests on what we learn in school. We are in a school here. We are supposed to be gathering information, gaining some understanding of that information, and learning how to verify that understanding. But we can settle for a lot less. We can settle for 'a bit' of information, a 'general idea' of what it means, and an educated(?) guess' as to what is true and what isn't. Often we do settle for merely that. Then, when confronted with a test, we find out just how much we have been kidding ourselves. That is usually unpleasant, but it is valuable information so far as self-knowledge is concerned.

Third, it is too bad that the anonymous 'Students of Consumer Concerns' who wrote the attack on exams do not understand the difference between a stomach and a mind. When you 'regurgitate' what is in your stomach, then it is empty. But when you repeat or re-present what is in your mind, what is there stays there. In fact, it stays better than ever. The process is called 'reinforcement', and unless it takes place, genuine learning does not occur. And so 'mental regurgitation' is very valuable; it helps us retain what we learn, and as a bonus, lets us see for ourselves what we have eaten and how much of it has been digested.

Fourth, learning that cannot be remembered is of little use. We do not remember what we do not reinforce. The most effective method of reinforcing course material is to review it. The only effective method of getting people to review course material is to give tests. And that is why they are good things, even if we dislike them.

Fifth, most tests involve asking people questions and seeing if they can answer them. One can either specify the questions in advance, or have them be a surprise. In either case, the challenge is the same: to construct an intelligent answer. Since many students find it hard to cope with surprise questions, many professors specify the questions in advance. This is for the students' sake, and is not a 'total farce' (or even a partial farce) as the 'Students of Consumer Concerns' claim. What would be a farce is if the answers (instead of merely the questions) were specified in advance. But specifying the questions is a good thing, because it enables us to concentrate our energies on one thing at a time, instead of dashing off in all directions at once.

Sixth, I think there should be more discussion about exams at MSVU. Especially on the crucial question: Does taking tests actually help learning to occur, or not? But how about a call for intelligent discussion and mutual understanding, rather than an exhortation to confrontation?

Joseph Foy,
Philosophy Dept.

I was one among those "fortunates" who had the privilege of staying overnight at the Mount during the storm. I would like to express my thanks to the student union, Don Shipton, the Dean of Students, Saga Foods and the many resident students for their helping hand and hospitality.

Ken Venugopal

Dear Editor:

In reply to Ms. Hartnett's article of the 29th: "the youth subculture as a faddist elite".

The consumer boycott is perhaps the only real weapon the people have in the present stage of the class struggle. It's prime purpose should not be viewed as being to initiate reform, rather the boycott must be understood as a means for mobilizing the people. The refusal to buy Angolan coffee is not going to bring about the fall of capitalist imperialism, but the people, once they realize the power of collective, political, and revolutionary action can bring about this fall.

The real importance of the boycotts is that they offer the people a chance to learn through struggle with they system, and prepares them further political action.

There is one thing worse than an ignorant know it all and that is someone who demands an immediate change in a life style without being willing to work for the changes necessary in society.

A thousand mile journey is begun with one step, Ms. Hartnett is not prepared to take that step.

Frank Slide
B.A. IV
University of Calgary

Dear Editor:
Special thanks from the
strandeers.

WINTER SCENE

The undisturbed snow slopes down to the river that winds crystal clear through the trees. You're at peace in this winter scene, in harmony with the natural world around you.

You're the kind of girl who wants the simplest yet most dependable kind of sanitary protection—Tampax tampons. They're worn internally, so you don't worry about discomfort or unpleasant odor. You never feel them when they're in place, yet you're secure

NO BELTS
NO PINS
NO PADS
NO ODOR



knowing how they expand softly to fit your inner contours.

Tampax tampons help make possible the most active, vital lifestyle. Yet in your quiet moments, you appreciate how their gentle, reliable protection helps simplify the natural process of menstruation.

The internal protection more women trust



DEVELOPED BY A DOCTOR
NOW USED BY MILLIONS OF WOMEN
MADE ONLY BY
CANADIAN TAMPAX CORPORATION LTD.,
BARRIE, ONTARIO



the picaro

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Course Evaluation Coming Very Soon

by Laura Purdy
Staff Writer

The long awaited Student Union Course Evaluation will finally become a reality.

Nancy Stewart, the Academic Vice President, who inherited the job which had been attempted by the two previous councils, reports that the questionnaire to be used for evaluation of courses will be distributed during the week of March 4-8.

The topic of course evaluation has been a much debated one between students and faculty at the Mount. Many professors expressed concerns that a student course evaluation would not give a fair picture of their courses. The planned evaluation however, should be satisfactory to both students and professors. The questionnaire to be used provides a tear off section that will not be used in the tabulated results but will be returned directly to the professor.

Stewart plans to send a letter to all professors requesting that they distribute the course evaluation questionnaire during classtime. The questionnaire is "short and won't take more than five or ten minutes to complete," said Stewart. If professors do not wish to distribute the questionnaires during class time, the students in the course will be asked to remain an extra five minutes after a class and complete the evaluation.

The faculties of Arts, Business and Science will be included in the evaluation. Home Economics, Nursing, Education and Secretarial Diploma courses will be excluded this year. Said

Stewart, "These programs are so structured that I figured they'd get all the feedback they need from the students." The 400 level seminar courses will also be excluded from the evaluation.

When all the results are collected, the questionnaires will be run through the Computers at the Dal Computer Centre. This will cost the Union approximately \$800. The number of woman hours saved will justify the expenditure.

Stewart hopes to have the results published before pre-registration and by the second week of April at the latest. The information on each course will be published in the form of a pros summary and will be printed in tabloid newspaper form to cut costs in this area.

Any students who are willing to help distribute the questionnaires are asked to contact Stewart in the Council offices in Rosaria Hall before the spring study session.



Nancy Stewart hopes to have results out by pre-registration.

Alternative Schools Conference

by James Stevens

There will be an educational conference in Halifax to explore various alternatives to the traditional school system which are in operation now, and their theoretical implications. The Alternative Arrangements in Education Conference will be held from Wednesday, February 20 till Friday, February 22,

and is hosted by the Department of Education, Dalhousie University. There is no registration fee and everybody is welcome.

The conference is to deal with the span traditionally covered by formal education, elementary thru secondary to tertiary, discussed in the context of alternative schools. The keynote address is "Schooling and Deschooling: The Ecology of the Frying Pan", by E. Friedenberg of Dal and author of the Vanishing Adolescent, and Coming of age in America.

George Grant, (Lament for a Nation, Philosophy in the Mass Age), Anthony Burton (The Horn and the Beanstock), and Bruce Franklin (Who Should Run Universities) will also be giving addresses. Al Rimmer of Everdale Place in Ontario and John Shuh of New Options will make presentations. There will be a student presentation Thursday morning, and later that day Jordan Bishop from Little X in Sydney will talk on "The Myth of Schooling".

The timetable of the conference has been arranged with time for discussion and "Informal Conversation".

Why a conference now on Alternative schools? "The time has come when the virtue of these alternatives can no longer be assumed merely because they oppose an obviously repressive and dehumanizing system." Anyone wishing further information write the Department of Education, Dalhousie University, or call 424-2585 or 424-3577.

All MSVU Education Students have been invited to attend the conference.

Winter Carnival Ends In Debt

The Dal Mount Winter Carnival ended approximately \$2000. in debt. The main reason for this was given to be lack of organization and poorly run events. Also events such as the Casino, which had top equipment brought in from Ontario and would have provided good entertainment for all, was poorly attended by students, causing a large monetary loss.

Dal's one event at the Mount, the cafeteria dance held on Thursday, was a success money wise, yielding a \$100. profit. However, a big complaint at the dance was that it was overcrowded. Over 475 tickets were sold to the event, although Mount Council advised Dal to sell only 300. Students complained at having to stand in beer lines for over 20 minutes. Many complaints were also made concerning the loud noise up front, which Dal called music and paid the band \$500. for.

The Mount Formal, Skaters Waltz, was not a part of the winter carnival. It

was organized solely by the Mount. The event sold only 55 of the 140 available tickets. Council lost \$535 on the ball. Although there was a big money loss, the ball was enjoyed by all who attended. The music was good and the crowd was small enough to be friendly

Peter Green, Dalhousie entertainment chairman secretary, felt that the winter carnival was poorly run. He has made a recommendation that there be no winter carnival chairman nor winter carnival committee next year. Green proposes to have an entertainment director under a system similar to that of the Ontario universities. By hiring an entertainment director at \$12,000 a year, Green feels that Dalhousie will be able to get more concerts and better entertainment throughout the year. Green added that the Mount would benefit from this system as we would have a better resource person in an entertainment chairman.

SMU Faculty Voting on Unionization

HALIFAX(CUP) - Union designation cards were distributed January 31 to members of the St. Mary's University faculty association.

Two organizations are bidding to unionize the faculty and become their bargaining agent: Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE) and the Canadian Association of University Teachers (CAUT).

The move to unionization is a bid by the faculty association to win more say in the university government.

However, speculation is high among faculty members that most will not return their cards, signifying they do not want to unionize.

The results of the vote will be released February 15.

Faculty association president Jack Ginsberg said unionization is needed because faculty isn't adequately represented on the Senate and Board of Governors. They have 50 per cent of the votes on both bodies.

"Most of the by-laws are accepting to us", said Ginsberg, "and the faculty is satisfied, but it took so long to get (those by-laws) that we wasted time."

Ginsberg said faculty resents the administration view that professors are 'employees' and claimed "certification will normalize relations between

faculty and administration. It's a legal device for more fruitful relations."

Officially the Board of Governors is neutral in the matter. University president David Owen Carrigan said he has "not been instructed by the Board of Governors to oppose faculty unionization."

Privately, however, some Board members view the faculty as "a pain

Improvements

HALIFAX (CUP) - Improvements in Halifax's urban transportation may be a long time coming according to the city's mayor, Walter Fitzgerald.

Fitzgerald spoke at a panel discussion last weekend on urban transportation.

As Nova Scotia has no urban policy, and the city owns a transit system (a fleet of diesel buses) which it can barely afford, Fitzgerald said any improvements would cost the tax-payer a great deal.

However, the city has planned several demonstration projects, including the consideration of a rail commuter system.

Canadian urban planner and critic Douglas Fullerton, another member of the panel, said he was astonished by

in the neck," a body with already too much to say, and nothing to contribute.

Philosophy professor Henry Lackner said faculty unionization if it goes through, "will be sticky as the Nova Scotia government has never had to deal with this type of certification before."

Lackner said he feels sure the faculty will vote against unionization.

Take Time

the railroad tracks extending from the suburbs into the centre of downtown Halifax, and suggested they be developed to provide public transit.

Fullerton recommended an extension of the ferry-boat service across the harbour between Halifax and Dartmouth (Halifax's twin city) or the establishment of a dial-a-bus service resembling a taxi service.

Fitzgerald said he felt the cost of such a service would be too high for the city, since a transit bus costs the city \$50,000.

The possibility of converting one of the two bridges spanning Halifax Harbour into a "transit only" bridge was bandied about.

Fitzgerald has advocated the answer to Halifax's traffic congestion would be a bridge across the Northwest Arm (a body of water which spans the northwest side of the city) contradicting the claim by Fullerton that expansion of roads only increases the influx of traffic.

Urban writer for the Halifax weekly the 4th Estate, Mary McGeer, also on the prowl, advocated penalizing single-passenger cars, and rewarding people who set up car pools. McGeer said the provincial government doesn't recognize urban pressure, and the city council is not committed to discouraging cars in favour of a total transit system. McGeer said both cars and buses cannot be accommodated in a growing downtown centre.

Jer Bear Cancels Classes at MSVU

by Paul Zwicker
Staff Writer

The many students who turned onto CJCH and Jerry Lawrence last Wednesday morning were not surprised to hear classes had been cancelled. Those students may not have been surprised but the Dean's office along with the Registrars were.

According to the Registrars office no one with authority to cancel classes did so. The academic Dean has sole authority to cancel classes. No one has any idea who informed CJCH that classes had been called off.

Speaking with CJ's telephone operator produced no clue to the identity of the phantom caller. What appears to have occurred was the public service broadcast of CJCH which was placed by an unauthorized person. This occurred at prime radio time between 7 and 8:30 am. Although the message was cancelled by Mount officials it served its purpose in producing an extremely low class attendance Wednesday, causing class cancellation by professors.

There is some humor that this unauthorized person could even be a student but students at the Mount living mature as they are would never conceive of such subversiveness.

What seems a more plausible story is that Jack Frost and his brother Robert were the parties responsible. It seems

Jackie and Bobby in an attempt to titivate the preceding day's storm thought that closure of the Mount would do this. Jack then proceeded to inform CJCH that the Mount along with St. Mary's would not be open for classes that day. After this Jack and Bob returned to their abode to do minor repairs on the snow making equipment due to damage done to it by Halifax City Field.

"Night" Day-Hop Cafeteria Initiated

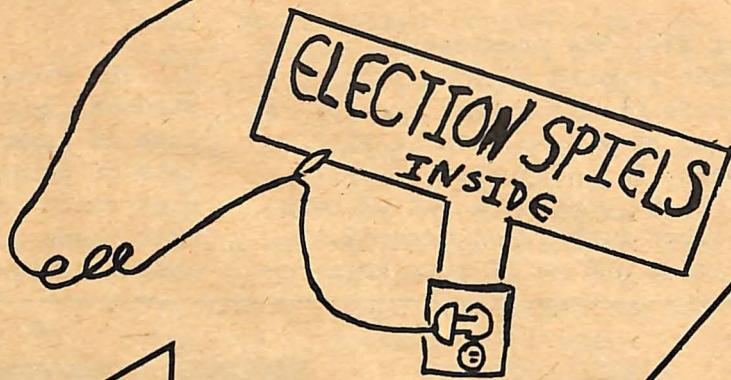
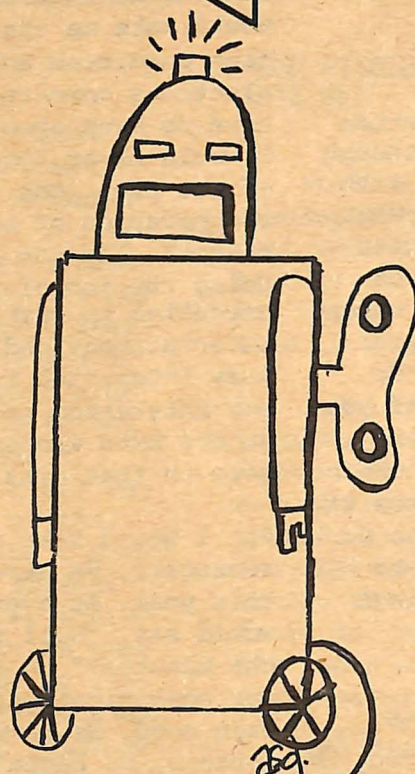
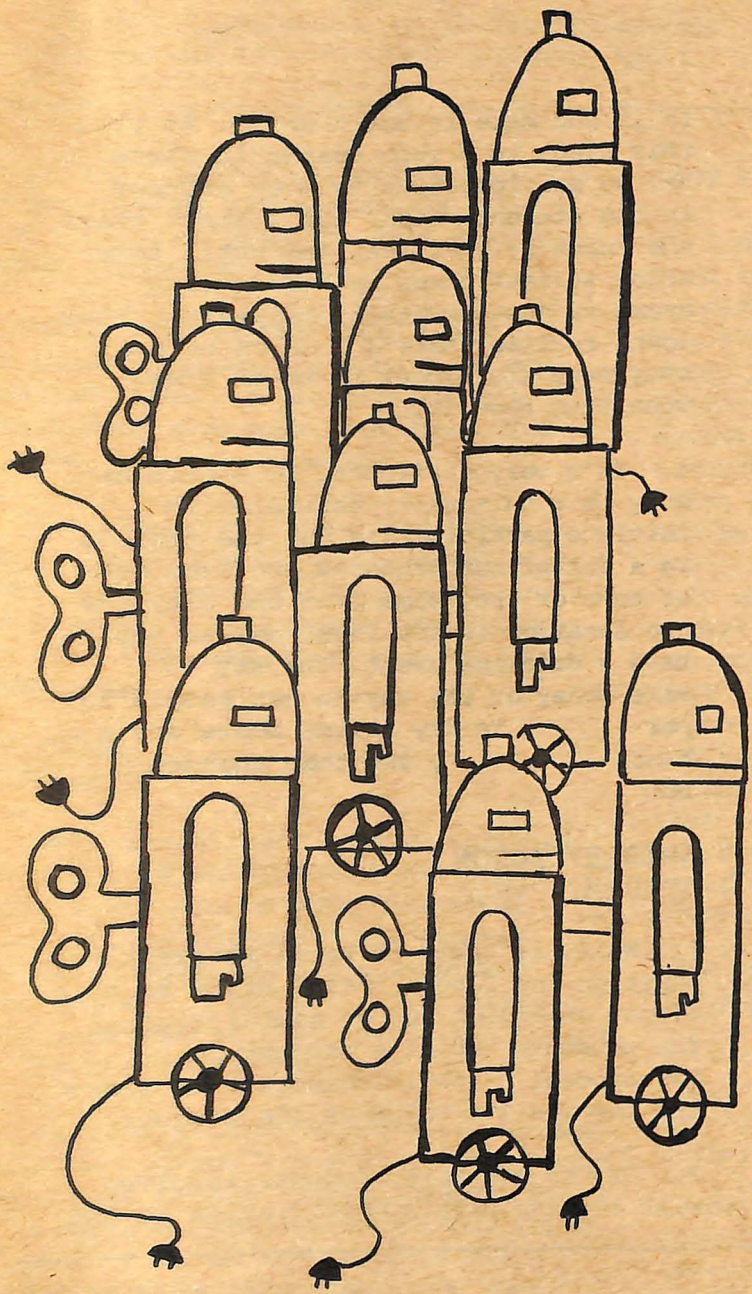
The day-hop cafeteria will be open evenings from 7:30 till 11:00 for a two-week trial period. The move toward a change in hours came as the result of a questionnaire distributed to resident students.. Coffee and doughnuts will be served.

A survey to further evaluate student opinion will be held sometime in February. Food Committee Chairman Anne McFetridge asks students to think of constructive comments to put on the forms. The poll will be taken at supper meal and will be done while the students are in the cafeteria.

Other than that, it was business as usual at the Food Committee meeting, people complained about students arriving late getting cold meals, about the lack

of variety, and about the state of salads. Some people in Vincent Hall wanted lunch brought up to them on the week-ends, but it was decided that this was "not economically feasible at this time". Saga's man, Bill Wingate, said that an "Italian" dinner would be held shortly, and is planning a St. Valentine's day special. He read a Saga bulletin on price increases of certain goods over the last four months which the committee found "of interest".

The next meeting of the Food Committee will be held 12 noon Tuesday, February 19 in the small dining room, and the food brochure will be discussed. Keep those cards and letters coming in, folks.



PICARO ASKS THE CANDIDATES:

1. Why are you running for _____ ?
2. What innovations would you bring to the office of _____ ?
3. What, in your view, is the purpose of the union ?
4. How could you initiate greater participation on the part of the student body ?

LINDITA STANBURY
EXECUTIVE VP

1. That's not too difficult a question I don't think cause this year, although I was a rep I worked very closely with the executive and I know a lot of what the job of an executive entails, that is why I chose that particular executive position - so that it is the executive vp that holds all the other positions intact. It has something to do with every other position and so if you are unsure of what position you want, executive position is the logical choice. Also it's really interesting because if there isn't a president, you get to do the job of the president, like go to all the university committee meetings which are very time consuming but ultimately educational.

Q. - The executive vp also involves filling in for the president if anything happens to the president. How much did you think of that before you decided to run?

Yes it did. The president's job is not one that I would go for. I think a lot of people who know what the job is are going to stay away from it with a 10 foot pole. I figure that if that happens I'll be getting a lot of help from the other members on council. I won't be alone and we'll just keep re-

opening nominations. This position would make me chairman of the application committee and chairman of the elections committee and I would just have to keep opening nominations. I would never have the signing power of the president. I'd still have the co-operation of all the members of the council. I'm not looking forward to doing the job of the president. Also executive in past years is involved in entertainment and that's one thing I am very interested in. This past year I got interested in it through working at the Arts weekend and I'd like to do more in that area.

2. I would make damn sure we got a secretary. We were lost without one this year. At every council meeting we would say, "Well now whose going to do the minutes?" We badly need a secretary. Our communications this year has not been good. We haven't sent out as many letters, we haven't done things properly. My job would be to do communications and be the link with the administration.

3. The student Union is what keeps the students together. It's what we all have in common. We're all in either Arts or Science, etc. We have the student union in common. It's something that keeps us together. Hopefully enough students will take an interest

in it and make it worth while. As yet, this place is a very apathetic place to be. No participation is ever aroused in the Student Union. But I don't think the Union is ever realized until something serious comes up like having exams or just something happening. They don't realize there's a union unless they need it, expect it to be there when they need it.

4. It's very difficult. It should be easy in a university this size to initiate participation but the trouble is a lot of our students are from out of town or they come from the city and the location is not ideal unless you have a drinking event. The way to make money or the way to get people to par is try having booze and a band see that changed but

SHIRLEY BORON
ACADEMIC VP

1. Well, it seems to be an interesting position and I hope that I might be able to get something out of administration for students, to give students a better deal on their courses, the times and perhaps the value of the courses.

2. Try to get more students involved with working with administration to get



Lindita Stanbury
Executive VP



Shirley Boron
Academic VP



Susan Pitman
External VP



Anne Derrick
Internal VP



Anne Higgins
Arts Rep



Jose Tremblett
Home Ec Rep



Barbara Way
Science Rep



Anne McFetridge
Home Ec Rep



Joanne McGinn
Business Rep

their courses straightened out and to try to improve administration. It's been good this year but just making better improvements on it.

3. Well, this year I think that the student union has done a lot more than last year. We seem to be more independent and more autonomous from Dal and from other people.

4. I really don't know yet. Maybe publicize what's going on in better means and wider variety of ways. And let the kids know just where they stand and what they can do to gratify the situation.

SUE PITMAN EXTERNAL VP

1. Well I'm already in that position now and I've enjoyed the work and I think a lot can be done with other universities. We're in the process now of renegotiating the agreement with Dal and I think a lot of stuff will come out of that and that involves my job and I enjoy meeting people.

2. Basically you want to know, oh dear. Well, the...that's a really hard question...Just from a council members point of view, not from an executive's point of view, I think that council has a lot of getting together to do even though this past council has improved on that, compared to past years. In some cases there wasn't a lot of participation and I think this should be looked into in hopes that we might be able to get a bit more participation in council activities.

3. I think to hold the students together mainly. I think if there wasn't a union the students wouldn't have any interest in university, that they would be academics. They would just go to and from class, it wouldn't mean anything to them, whereas the union can plan activities, they can do course evaluation which will get the students into better courses. Mainly that the interest of the students picks up when there is a union, they may actually belong to something and whether or not

they partake in them is up to them.

4. I don't want to see the council turn into a gigantic entertainment committee. I think that the students may think that and I think it's difficult because we haven't really been getting a good turnout at any of our activities. We're just bringing them together as in a social thing and I think maybe. Well, the students around here are basically apathetic and don't seem to have much interest.

It may be that we can get their interest into becoming a part of the student union to those who don't know that they are a part of the student union. If we can put on better activities, entertainment activities that we could all benefit from and to draw them to know that they are members of the student union and then I think we would get more participation from the student body.

ANNE DERRICK INTERNAL VP

1. I feel the way to begin doing something in the university is to channel one's efforts by becoming elected to a position.

2. Never having taken a position in council I'm going to get in there to see what needs to be done and try my hardest to do it.

3. Personally, I feel very much that this university needs to be unified. I think it needs to be unified within itself and I think that the union is the mechanism by which it can be done.

4. I think perhaps by giving the students a chance to see how the inside mechanics happen. Perhaps they would then catch fire, get interested in things. I think too many of the students look at the institutions like the newspaper, the student union, and say "Oh my god, that's a big clique". I don't like the word, but I think if they had a chance to see it from the inside, perhaps if there was more interaction, there would be more participation.

ANNE HIGGINS ARTS REP

1. Well, I want to get involved in the student council 'cause I did a lot of work around my high school...I've been here for a year, and I've kind of seen how things run, basically and I'd just like to get into something.

2. I don't know. I never thought about it much... but I think the biggest thing for the Arts Rep is the Arts Weekend and planning that. I'd like to introduce new ideas maybe, and a few original ideas if I could but I never really thought about it... what there is to do, because because I don't know that much about how the student council operates as a council.

Q. If you're Arts Rep then you're automatically Arts President. Do you have any ideas for that?

I didn't know that.

As a media between students and the administration... There's a lot to be desired around here really, well I guess there has been a lot of improvements in the social life around here, but there's still some room for improvement and its to improve the life of the students I guess and to improve the facilities and just to improve life basically around the campus and to improve it academic-wise too.

3. Well, I don't know. This might be sort of elementary, but have representatives report back officially, like to different residences.

Some kids don't know heads or tails, maybe they don't care, but like in residences they have house meetings and floor meetings every once in a while, and if you've got a council member on your floor or in your house or in the residence which you know probably most of them do...if there are things going on, let them know and let them know what's going on on council 'cause a lot of people don't know and maybe...

Q. Do you think that that's basically the fault of the students because they don't take the time or because council doesn't

try hard enough to get the info to them?

I think its both - both apathy on the students part and I don't see members of council going out and going out for the purpose of letting the student body know whats going on. They leave it up to them to come to council meetings and find out for themselves maybe if they do try to go out and let people know what is going on it might be better. I mean not all the time but there might be certain important issues that kids would like to know about, it would help the council decide whether or not they were doing the right thing.

JOANNE MCGUINN BUSINESS REP

1. I feel I can fill the position.
2. I don't think I have any new ideas. I feel the business rep more or less acts as a go-between between the business society and the student council. When the business society has problems or things they want to say or ask questions that's the business rep's position. When things concern the business society or faculty, someone should be there to speak up and represent them.
3. To try to represent the students, to function for the students in the university. The student union is the students, the student body.
4. Its just to be aware of matters that are of interest to the students. Academic things like the tenure thing, and the student housing and situations like that. You have to be aware and be looking around for what students are worried about and their concerns. Its hard to find things that are of interest to students besides those which are social. You just have to be looking for them. I think, for business rep, by attending business society meetings, and council meetings regularly I should be kept well informed.

JOSE TREMBLETT HOME ECONOMICS REP

1. I am running for the position of Home Ec. Rep because I am very interested in Student Council and since I am in Home Economics I could represent these girls on council.
2. I don't want to say that I would "do this" and this" because I feel I should wait. If I did get elected then I would set the aims that I would wish to fulfill for the year.
3. To me the union has a great purpose. It's role is to represent the students and to act in the interest of the students. Secondly they should provide entertainment for the students whenever possible.
4. I feel participation on the part of the student body has a great deal to do with the student reps. A rep should maintain close contact with her constituents and I feel that the Home Ec Rep should keep the Home Ec Society and

Student Council tied close together. The Home Ec. Society could benefit greatly from the Council, and I feel I could be the person who could represent the Home Ec Students.

ANNE MCFETRIDGE HOME ECONOMICS REP

1. Because I think it is important for the Home Ec. students to become more involved in the student council and I think that by having an active rep the Home Ec students can help council more.
2. I'd like to see the Home Ec rep do more for council than just be a liaison with the Home Ec. society and faculty. I'd like to see the Home Ec rep be a more active member of council and help out council a little more.
3. I think the Student Union is a liaison between students and administration and its there to promote good relations between us and to also make a good life for the students in the university.
4. I think too much is being done for the students by their council. I think council needs to let them do some of the work, then they become more involved and therefore appreciate the activities that are being put out for them.

BARBARA WAY SCIENCE REP

1. I'm running for Science Rep. because I'd like to sit on council representing science. I didn't know if anybody else was running. Actually what happened was - last year I was support-

ing a girl and she didn't make it and she said, "next year I'm going to get you to run." I said, "Oh yeah sure - big joke." She came in one morning with some names on a list. I'd forgotten about it. I said sure cause I want to.

2. I would bring more rapport with science students and inform them what's happening with council other than what they get from attending meetings themselves and reading the published minutes. I had hoped to introduce a science club...bring people from outside and speak to students who can attend the lectures; or get trips going. I think it would be beneficial to have people from outside coming in to speak about different careers. People doing research or papers, just anything so their scope will be increased. I'd like to try and work on that.

3. It's suppose to be in the interest of the students to keep them informed about where the students fees are going and things like that. It's all sort of new to me but I'm willing to go in and try it out. It'll be interesting and I'm looking forward to it. It'll be quite an experience.

4. Well, until they're really angry about something, you know something is really buggin them, that's the only time you'll see them there. I don't know. I think just tell them come to the meeting it'll really be beneficial for you...think of the school more as their university or something they should be putting into not what you can get from it all the time.

+ ALL THE ELECTION INFO YOU WANT TO KNOW

DID YOU EVER THINK OF RUNNING FOR PRESIDENT?

The positions of Nursing Rep and President are still open for nomination. Nominations will remain open until 5 o'clock p.m. on Friday, February 15. If you're interested in joining the race pick up a form at the council office in Rosaria Hall.

YOU ALL GET TO CAST YOUR VOTES ON THE 20TH

Elections will be held on Wednesday, February 20. You will have until 5 oclock p.m. to cast a vote for your favorite candidate. A schedule of polling stations is not yet available so keep an eye open for posters with polling station info.

BUT NO ONE SEEMS TO KNOW WHEN THE CANDIDATES GIVE THEIR SPEECHES

There has not been a date set yet for candidates speeches so keep an eye open for the info on posters around campus.

ANDELECTION FOR SENATE SEATS WON'T BE FOR AWHILE YET

As you may realize by now, senate seats have not been opened to election. They were scheduled to open but there are a few hassles with Senate confirmation of the Union's method of electing people to senate. It's not known at the present time when senate seats will be open to elections.

Course examines status of modern women

by Anne Higgins

Introduced to the curriculum at Mount Saint Vincent this year is the new course entitled Perspectives on Women. Striking a blow for all of us discriminated against women of the world, this course provides an interdisciplinary study on the status of modern women using the resources of the History, Religious Studies, Political Studies, Psychology, Home Economics and Sociology departments.

The stress is on women in society and why they are presently in the position they are. This is justified through the presentation of various theories as to

why women are considered inferior. Their status is established through the explanation of influential religious beliefs, the first and present structures of society and the obviously attributive biological differences.

There are over one hundred students enrolled in Perspectives on Women, all of them women. The material used is of a woman's viewpoint although several lectures have been delivered by men. Perhaps the fact that no men have enrolled in the course is a disadvantage in itself as with the presence of a few male students' masculine views could readily be offered.

The first semester offered lectures

from all departments involved. Mount Saint Vincent president Sister Catherine Wallace delivered the first lecture relating factual information on committees and commissions that have been set up in Canada to study the status of women, their goals and their procedures to improve such things as education and opportunities for women.

Dr. Bruder from the Home Economics department lectured on family life and the role of the mother. Expressing his own views he stated that he felt that women are capable of doing far more than just housework.

The History department offered lectures from Dr. Wallace and Sister Theresa Corcoran. Among topics discussed were women and their part in exploration of the Arctic, women in the 17th Century, with special reference to the lives of those of the lower and middle class and the feminists movements in Canada.

Explanations as to why women are said to lack ambition or desire to become involved were offered by Sister Rosemary Samson and Dr. Van Houton of the Psychology department. Also discussed was society's definition of learning, positive and negative behaviour and how we learn to act and behave accordingly.

Dr. Goulet lectured on women and their part in different religions centering on Judaism, Christianity, and other Eastern Religions. The mythology of how women in past times were regarded as gods was also mentioned.

Claudine Lowery and Susan Clark offered sociological views on why certain characteristics are attributed to women with special reference to their sex roles. Students were given statistics on the percentage of women now working at different professions.

Larry Fisk from the Political Studies department discussed women and how they are regarded as the influential consumers in society.

To enroll in Perspectives on Women no prerequisite is required. However, in the second term students are divided into groups concentrating on the faculty in which they wish to earn the credit. Each group has its own course requirements.

Perspectives on Women is the only course of its kind offered in Eastern Canada. We women of Mount Saint Vincent University should be gratified that we have the opportunity to benefit from the knowledge of people such as Sister Catherine Wallace, who is a member of the committee researching the status of women in Canada. Although the course does not center on liberation it does stress equal opportunity.

Mount Saint Vincent has set examples for female equality in many ways and perhaps through taking an example of our Perspectives on Women, other universities can strike a blow for equality by offering similar courses.

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THEATRE

'ABELARD AND HELOISE' AVOIDS SICKLY SWEETNESS

by Pat Sherbin

What can you say about a love story of a 34-year-old teacher and his 17-year-old student? That it was touching/ That it was a tragic? That it was a lot of fun?

Today, you probably wouldn't say very much but in 1131 in France, the love story of teacher Peter Abelard and his young student Heloise was a scandal.

Abelard, although not a priest was an instructor at Norte Dame and considered within the clerical and celibate class.

"If you study philosophy," he advised his students, "Don't get a wife, get a good servant".

In the Pier 1 production of Ronald Millar's "Abelard and Heloise", Abelard not only gets himself a wife, but ends up with a bad servant. The story, based on history, is of the great theologian Abelard's decline because of his love for the girl. He is hired by her uncle to instruct her and the two fall in love. She gets pregnant, bears his son, but refuses to marry him, arguing that to marry would mean the end of his career in the church. She finally agrees to a marriage only if it will be kept secret, but her uncle refuses to keep the secret.

Heloise devises a plan whereby she will go into a nunnery as a novice, spreading the rumor that she is going to take the final vow so that the marriage will seem to be annulled. The uncle, Cannon Fulbert, however, wants further revenge and after bribing Abelard's servant to leave a gate open, he hires men to castrate Abelard so that the marriage will be broken once and for all.

Abelard enters a monastery and asks Heloise to take her final vows. They meet in a chapel a decade later. He is now a true believer of God but she, although regarded as saintly doubts even the existence of God, her only love is still for Peter. He eventually persuades her to see that her love of God is his only salvation and they part again. Abelard died when he was past 60 and Heloise 22 years later. They were buried separately but in 1800, their ashes were mingled so that they were at last, together.

Given that basic plot, the play could have turned into an "As the World Turns" as seen by Erich Segal. But it wasn't.

The Pier 1 players manage to make use of their warehouse playhouse so that the simple settings are in line with the history of the play. That is, the brick walls look as if they could be an old Frech castle, or an old nunnery or an old monastery.

Because of limited space and money Pier 1 productions are rarely lavish but again they made good use of what

they had by having the 'nuns' and 'monks' in the play change the sets.

This use of characters to set the scenes was effective at times but at other times, it was jarring. Abelard, (Graham Whitehead) and Heloise, (Jusith Hodgson) are in a passionate embrace. Then they suddenly break away and run off stage. The Nova Scotia Board of Censors hadn't dropped in - it was just the end of that scene so they didn't waste any time getting on with the next bit. There must be some way these quick breaks could have been handled more smoothly. The main characters of the play were good, especially the two lead players. Whitehead looked a bit young for the part; Heloise was "sweet" without being cloying. James MacSwain, as Uncle Fulbert reminded me too much of the Quickly Who witch whom he portrayed in another Pier 1 production.

But what can you say about a group that tries so hard?

Directed by John MacKay, the play runs until the 17th, then from Feb.



20-23. Pier 1 is on Upper Water Street. For reservations call 423-7720.



DYNAMIC DULLARDS PACK NO PUNCH IN 'THE STING'

by James Stevens

It's the dynamic duo vs organized crime, using all the pride and intrigue of the Big Con, and in the dirty thirties, too. The dirty thirties remained on the fringe of the action, though. Just pans of the bums sleeping in the streets, the hobo jungles, and this con artist admonishing Redford, "Don't you know there's a depression on". The real action concerned itself with a half million bucks, fast trains, and two-hundred dollar suits.

Well, I gotta tell you that I was

not horribly impressed by the flick. It was OK, kept me amused for two hours with lots of action, good piano, and a couple of excellent scenes of the Chicago overhead, and (guess what) a trick ending. Actually I think what amused me most was the piano (especially in the chase scenes (where else), and the bit of camera obscura at the close.

But unless you're a big fan of Redford and/or Newman I wouldn't suggest that you catch it, While it's not a movie I would walk out on, I wouldn't wait up to see it on the late show, either.



INFO . . .

The first CANADA CUP Cross Country Skiing races will be held at the Wentworth Valley, Nova Scotia cross country trails on March 2 and 3, 1974. It is being organized by the Nova Scotia Zone of the Canadian Ski Association. Headquarters for this event will be the Youth Hostel at Wentworth Valley road.

Canada Cup trophies and prizes will be awarded for individual and relay events. Competitors are expected from Newfoundland, New Brunswick, Quebec, Ontario, Nova Scotia, and Maine. Those interested may contact:

Race Secretary, D. Smith
c/o C.Y.H.A.
P.O. Box 3010,
South Postal Station
Halifax, N.S.

CONTEMPORARY INDIAN ART

The Mount Saint Vincent University art gallery will open an exhibition of Contemporary Canadian Indian Paintings on February 8. The paintings are shown through the courtesy of the Glenbow Art Institute and the

Winnipeg Art Gallery and will remain on display through march 3.

The Indian artist-poet Sarain Stump will give an in-gallery lecture on Symbolism in Contemporary Canadian Indian Painting in the MSVU art gallery on Tuesday, February 12 at 8 p.m. Mr. Stump's book, "There is my People Sleeping", has been the subject of a CBC radio program in Toronto. He is now head of the new Art Program for the Saskatchewan Indian Cultural College.

ALL ABOUT PRINTMAKING

A workshop "All About Printmaking" will be taught by Gloria Barrett in the MSVU art gallery on Tuesday evenings, 7-9 30 p.m. from February 12 through April 16. The workshop will include the the practical uses of wood cuts and lino-block printing, silk screen printing. Costs are \$20.00 for the studio fees and \$10.00 for supplies. Those interested may register by calling Mrs. Cameron at 453-4450, ext.160.

FREE MUSIC AT DAL

Dalhousie Cultural Activities runs a Sunday Concert Series bringing in well-known musicians from all over the world and in additions sponsors concerts by local groups. These Sunday afternoon concerts start at 3 p.m. and are performed in the Rebecca Cohn Auditorium of the Dalhousie Arts Centre.

A MODERN SYNTHESIZER

See how a modern synthesizer works. On Friday February 15, Bob Atkinson will demonstrate his arp synthesizer to electronic music enthusiasts in Room 406 of the Dalhousie Arts Centre at 3:30 p.m.

ATLANTIC BUSINESS

An Atlantic Business Conference, co-ordinated and organized by the MSVU Business Society, will be held at the Sea King Motel, February 13-16.

Delegates from the University of Prince Edward Island, Memorial, Moncton. New Brunswick, St. Francis Xavier, Acadia, Dalhousie and St. Mary's will attend

along with businessmen from each of these areas.

MASKS WITHOUT MASQUERADES

Dalhousie Art Gallery is currently preparing for one of the most exciting exhibitions of the year. Schedules for February 6 through March 3, the exhibition will feature masks from the African continent.

FELLINE ROMA!

February 17, "Fellini Roma", will be showing at the Rebecca Cohn Auditorium at 8 p.m. The film presents several loosely connected views of Rome, past and present.

CLASSIFIEDS

Pregnant? Need help? Call BIRTHRIGHT. 9:30-11:30am: 7:30-10:00pm. 422-4408 or 422-4409

WANTA MAKE SOME MONEY?

The PICARO is in need of a typist. The job will pay according to the responsibilities taken by the person. Inquires can be made at the PICARO office, across from the student council office.

At some moment I did answer yes to Someone or Something, and at that hour I was certain that existence is meaningful and that my life in self-surrender had a goal. — Dag Hammarskjöld

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Is This Ad Selling Women?

by Anne Derrick

As women, we may regard ourselves as liberated persons, however for the most part society does not view us in this light. Society regards us as non-persons and sex symbols who are a weaker and less perfect edition of man. If we look around us we can see this exploitive attitude manifested in all aspects of our lives. One of the most potent agents of this attitude is the media.

Many of the great male writers and philosophers, who have interpreted the human condition, have undertaken the job of defining woman. Woman has yet to define herself. Somehow in this supposedly enlightened age, the human condition is considered to be separate from the male condition.

"The female is a female by virtue of a certain lack of qualities. We should regard the female as afflicted with a natural defectiveness."

Aristotle

"Woman is the lesser man."
Tennyson

"A man who has depth...can only think orientally about women. He must comprehend women as a possession, a property that can be closed off, as something predestined for service and thereby fulfilling its nature."

Nietzsche

Whereas in the past it was the philosophers and the writers who defined women, today it is the media, an integral, male dominated part of our society.

Women expend a great deal of time, energy and money pouring themselves into whatever is the current mold of female beauty. Our lives' identities hinge too much upon our physical im-

ages. According to the manufacturers, it is imperative for us to buy this cosmetic to make our skin softer, this scent to make us more alluring and desirable, and this fashion to flatter our figures.

It is generally accepted that "woman should wear what their men want them to wear".

Ann-Margaret, Vogue 1971

We so often forget that in our endeavors to be physically pleasing in accordance to the current fashion, we lose our identity. Women are entirely manipulated by fashion as it is presented by the media, designed not so much for female convenience as for male appetite.

Regardless of women's desperate attempts to fashion herself according to male desires, throughout history, man has been the most uncomplimentary in his view of the other sex.

"In the East women religiously conceal that they have faces, in the West that they have legs. In both cases they make it evident that they have but very little brains."

Thoreau

"There is a good principle which has created order, light and man; and a bad principle which has created chaos, darkness and woman."

Pythagoras

"Women are insecure and need someone to tell them what to wear."

William Frohman

Toronto Garment Merchant

Much of the media generated opinion can be quite legitimately interpreted as woman-hating, a term disguised by the euphemism, misogyny. This attitude

towards woman seems to be socially quite accepted, yet one of the bitterest accusations that is levelled at the feminist movement is that they hate men.

"Man is defined as a human being and woman is defined as female. Whenever she tries to be a human being she is accused of trying to emulate the male."

Simone de Beauvoir
The Second Sex

The media frequently portrays women in a state of narcissism -- for example, magazine advertisements in which the women admire themselves, touch themselves or stare off into the middle distance in a stupor of self-adulation. The stupidity and vulnerability of these stances invites humiliation and degradation.

The media is also often the agent that induces women to destroy each other. Competition between women can so often become destructive, who has the nicest legs, the slimmest figure, the longest hair -- it is the media that tells us that these superficial things are important.

Many women become slaves to the media. They take their escape in fantasy and fetter themselves to television soap operas, and the lives of glamorous film personalities. Too often they dwell upon their own self deficiencies rather than attempting to break out of their depressing environments.

Society influences women to avoid maturity by encouraging them to rely on men. Women who enjoy competition or active involvement are not regarded with approval. Men too suffer from this type of denial. If they do tend toward more creative pursuits, they are often labelled "effeminate". It is not considered proper for a man to cry or show weakness. The media perpetuated these images, type-casting its female prostitutes as young, elegant and beautiful playthings of the rugged, virile he-man.

The media instructs women to seek a visual identity, to become in reality that which others wish to see. Industry thrives on women's desires to please others visually, fashion being their self identification.

Fine little girl she waits for me
she's as plastic as she can be
she paints her face with plastic goo
and wrecks her hair with some shampoo
Plastic people, hey baby,
you're such a drag.
Frank Zappa

Perhaps you had not realized to what extent you as a woman are regarded with contempt by society. There have been issues raised in the West over the use of sex to sell products with which there is no relationship at all. There can be no doubt that women allow themselves to be exploited, yet surely it is time that we stopped allowing the media and the businessmen of our society to regard us as sex symbols. It is time for us to be considered not as "the weaker sex", not as receptacles for abuse and exploitation, but as equal human beings.