

# the Connection



Mount Saint Vincent University, Halifax, Nova Scotia



Concentration was the name of the game, during one of the arts and crafts sessions of the March Break Day Camp for children from grades primary through six, sponsored by the Mount's Athletics/Recreation Department. Twenty-five children spent their school break involved in physical activities, movies, creative sessions and off-campus trips to such places as the Maritime Museum of the Atlantic.

## The Mount Offers Novanet A Home On Its Campus

An offer has been made by Mount Saint Vincent University to locate the new NOVANET (a communication link among the libraries of five metro area universities) on its campus.

NOVANET would link the libraries of the Mount, Dalhousie University, the Technical University of Nova Scotia, Saint Mary's University and the Nova Scotia College of Art and Design, as well as automating their functions. (See *The Connection*, March 4 for further details).

One concern expressed by the Council of Metro University Librarians (COMUL) at its March meeting was that the establishment of NOVANET could be delayed if the Mount had to wait for a lengthy period of time for new physical facilities for its library.

Members of COMUL asked that the university presidents proceed in unifying the management board membership and authorizing it to go ahead with vendor proposals, while the location was being discussed.

The recommendation going before the presidents on April 1 was that the board be made up of the five

university librarians (Dr. William Birdsall, Dalhousie; M. Riaz Hussain, TUNS; Ron Lewis, Saint Mary's; John Murchie, NSCAD; and Lucian Bianchini, from the Mount); as well as Dr. Pauline Jones, Academic Vice-President of the Mount; Dexter Kaulbach, of TUNS as a representative of Interuniversity Services Inc.; and Peter Jones, of Dalhousie University's Computer Centre, as a representative of the Committee on Interuniversity Computer Co-ordination.

The Mount  
1925/1985

## Universities Should Operate Year Round \_\_\_\_?

Halifax Board of Trade president Ken Rowe was reported recently in the Mail-Star as suggesting that universities operate on a full-time 12-month basis so that additional tuition fees could be used to help pay off the provincial deficit.

"The thinkers in the universities," he is quoted as saying, "have to make more efficient use of the facilities government has given them and is funding."

Unlike universities, the private sector would go bankrupt if it closed down five months of the year, he said.

In order to make the situation at Mount Saint Vincent University known, President E. Margaret Fulton offered this rebuttal. "Mr. Rowe does not seem to understand universities do, in fact, function on a 12-month basis. At the Mount our inter-session begins in May and continues into June when summer school begins and goes on into July. He does not seem to realize," she said, "that many students are virtually self-supporting and are entirely dependent on their earnings through the summer months to pay for their university studies. If governments were prepared to subsidize either the students or the universities at a higher level, we could indeed accommodate our students on a 12-month basis. It must be remembered, however, that some turnaround time is needed for registration, repairs, renovation of labs and classrooms, residences and all university facilities."

Approached for his reaction to Rowe's statements, Michael Merrigan, Executive Assistant to the President, said, "Our students occupy their rooms for approximately eight months of the year and they pay their way. Years ago, many of our rooms were vacant for about four months in the year, which gave us time to clean up and make repairs, but essentially

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## Sixty Years of Memories . . .

by Ruth Jeppesen

The Feast of Saint Vincent took on a very different air in the summer of 1945, for the sisters and students of Mount Saint Vincent College.

Early in the evening, the day before the feast day, Sister Francis d'Assisi (academic dean of the college at the time), says a series of explosions started at the ammunition depot located directly across Bedford Basin from the Mount, in the outskirts of Dartmouth.

Summer school was in session and many sisters from around the Atlantic Provinces were at the Mount for a retreat, in addition to those who were living here.

Sister Francis remembers a deep rumble and then windows started to break. Everyone ran, in no particular direction at first, and then orders were given for a full evacuation of the building.

The sisters and students went up past what was then St. Joseph's Hill, where Evaristus Hall now stands, to a field by (what was called) the Cow Pond, located behind the present-day Motherhouse. Some of them stayed there all night, while each new explosion sent them all lying flat on the ground.

Help started to come, including buses from CFB Stadacona to take

(Continued on page 8)

## Flash

When Prime Minister Brian Mulroney was making history with the first "most representative" economic conference in Canadian history recently, Mount honorary alumna Flora MacDonald, Minister of Employment and Immigration, was making history too—filling in for the PM, she became the first woman to serve as the country's Deputy Prime Minister.



## Alumnae Update

In keeping with the celebratory theme of the Mount's diamond jubilee, the alumnae association's homecoming committee has planned a slate of activities for the annual reunion weekend with the emphasis on a real party atmosphere.

**Jubilee Homecoming '85** will feature as honored guests, members of the diamond jubilee class of '25, the golden anniversary class of '35, the silver celebrants of the class of '60, and all other class years ending in "0" or "5".

All alumnae are invited to join these honored guests in making the weekend of May 31 - June 2 a wonderful time to remember.

The fun will begin with the traditional academy reunion on Friday evening, May 31 at the Motherhouse. Saturday, June 1 will be jam-packed with things to do—everything from a formal jubilee homecoming brunch and annual meeting to a clambake on McNab's Island, tea at the Dingle and a pyjama party in the Birches residence.

The traditional memorial mass for deceased classmates and tea with the sisters at the Motherhouse on Sunday, June 2 will round out the weekend's activities.

According to Alumnae Officer, Dilly MacFarlane, the program has been designed to include as many family-oriented activities as possible, in hopes of encouraging increased attendance from members of the classes of the 60's and 70's. "We have reserved lots of space for on-campus accommodation in the Birches residence, and we hope that our alumnae will plan to make a real weekend of it", says MacFarlane.

Because the program has been planned with "something for everyone", Jubilee Homecoming '85 organizers are looking forward to the best turnout ever.

At the annual meeting of the alumnae association to be held in conjunction with homecoming, a new board of directors will be officially installed. From within the ranks of this new board, an executive slate will be elected. Any active member of the association (i.e. one who has either paid dues in the association or made a financial contribution to the university within the past two years) is eligible to nominate or be nominated to the board. Anyone interested should contact the Alumnae Office for further information at 443-4450 ext. 136.

## Classified Ad

**HOUSE WANTED:** quality home, modern or modernized, wanted within walking distance of Dalhousie University. Immediate possession or at owner's convenience. Call extension 170.



The Host Family program held a candlelight supper and entertainment in Vinnie's Pub last month, where hosts and their "adopted" students mingled and enjoyed the international evening. Professor Carole Hartzman (extreme right) has, for several years, been involved with the program which gives foreign students a chance to be part of a Canadian family while they are studying in this country.

## Women's Studies Lecture Series Packs Them In At The Mount

Thelma McCormack gave a Mount audience food for thought when she told them the number of ways of interpreting women and culture and the role women had to play in the 20th century.

McCormack, a professor of sociology at York University, said each century had its own predominant thinking: the rise of scientific endeavor in the 17th century, the assertion of political will in the 18th century and the industrial revolution of the 19th century.

She said women finally have "conviction in our mind that we are actors in history, not just passive observers."

Contemporary feminism was rooted in the social sciences and culture was the cornerstone of the social sciences so it was important for women to be aware of culture, what it is and how it works, she said.

McCormack said the concept of culture had many meanings on the global scene and elaborated on three ways of thinking on the subject.

### —Patriarchy—

First was culture as a primacy of society. Patriarchy was the norm in many societies and the growth of feminism had not been able to erase patriarchy. She said her generation had hoped to do away with patriarchy but "it has merely adopted new models."

Another cultural problem of primacy she said, was the obsession with fetal rights. She said the hypothetical rights of the fetus were being defined by men and until women can control reproduction as a social right, not a biological one, they will continue to suffer not being equal participants in the direction of society.

The second concept of culture McCormack discussed involved "culture as anthropological patterns". She warned that women could not hope to impose what works in North American society onto other ethnic

groups. "Older women, women my age were convinced there was nothing that modernization couldn't cure in the third world," she said.

She also noted that imposing North American ideas of contraception and family planning on third world women might not work either. What was happening could amount to genocide, said Germaine Greer in her new book *Sex and Destiny*, if the ethnicity of these people was not considered.

McCormack said her message to third world women would be "Don't refuse modernization but don't count on it either."

McCormack said Canadian women had to consider what imposing their ideas of culture on women from other cultures living in Canada would do to them. She left the topic with the question: Do we ignore the things we see as injustices that they think are perfectly normal or do we jump in and impose on them our moral concepts?

### —Cheaper Labor—

McCormack said global economics was part of the concept of "culture as anthropology" and that women had to look at economics on a global scale and from the women's point of view.

As an example she asked: "What happens to the women in Canada when a textile plant moves to Taiwan and the cheaper labor of women there means lower priced goods in the end?" She said we had to consider both groups of women involved.

McCormack noted that a lot of research was needed to understand the global involvement of women in economics and suggested the **new Chair of Women's Studies at the Mount would be a good body to begin the needed research.**

Her third concept of culture involved the arts and she made the point that women had an important role to play in the arts.

Women were still portrayed as being dependent, of lacking

intelligence in most artistic genres, she said. "Women artists are needed for the sensitivity required in improving the portrayals. The feminist art movement is (by necessity) a political movement," she said.

Women artists were important to "create an environment where the need for social change becomes so obvious that it can't be ignored," she said.

The new direction Canada was taking by cutting subsidization of the arts would hurt women more than anyone else, said McCormack.

Many women didn't understand culture as a medium for society, she said.

"The next time I hear someone 'SOCIETY MADE ME DO IT', I'll tell them 'YOU ARE SOCIETY'."

McCormack's lecture was part of the women's studies lecture series at the Mount.

## Something New And Different

Around this time of year, community colleges across Canada start to draw up the adult-education courses they'll be offering come fall. Sundry wits at Sir Sandford Fleming College in Peterborough decided to have a tongue-in-cheek go at this, and here are some of the "courses" they proposed—Overcoming Peace of Mind; Creative Tooth Decay; How You Can Convert Your Family Room into a Garage; Skate Yourself to Regularity; Money Can Make You Rich; Molding Your Child's Behavior through Guilt and Fear; Basic Kitchen Taxidermy; Mortgage Reduction through Arson; Needlecraft for Junkies; Christianity and the Art of R.V. Maintenance; Career Opportunities in El Salvador; Looter's Guide to Canadian Cities; Whine Your Way to Alienation; T Shelters for the Indigent; Repair and Maintenance of Your Virginity.

(Reprinted from *A Worker's Notebook*—by Richard J. Needham *Globe and Mail*)

## What's Going On?

Faculty members may be interested in the Fifth Annual Conference on Teaching and Learning in Higher Education, to be held June 16-19 at the University of Ottawa. The program includes many workshops and presentations including sessions on distance education, faculty evaluation, writing competency, computer-assisted learning and "teaching as art rather than technique". For more information contact Dr. Susan Drain, English Department, chair of the teaching committee, at extension 335.

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A one-day introductory workshop on videoconferencing in the classroom and in distance education will be held in the DUET classroom on Tuesday, April 16, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. It is designed to give Mount faculty and administration members a day of hands-on experience. Enrolment is limited so anyone interested should call extension 388 NOW.

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The Public Relations Society will be holding a wind-up Wine and Cheese Party, 7-10 p.m., Wednesday, April 3 in Rosaria Coffee Shop.

Public Relations students and faculty members are invited to attend the last function of the year and to meet the new society executive.

Representatives from the International Association of Business Communicators and the Canadian Public Relations Society will also be in attendance.

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Discussions are underway to see if the International Peace Conference, to be held at the Mount June 5-9, can be broadcast by satellite. If conference organizers are able to raise enough money to broadcast portions of the conference to Canadian audiences (and potentially to other countries) it would be a great advantage to "see and hear women's alternatives for negotiating peace".

"Teleconferencing would enable women from across Canada to speak directly to international guests in Halifax while viewing them on a monitor."

"Dr. E. Margaret Fulton of Mount Saint Vincent University is very supportive of this and has offered the use of the Distance University Education via Television (DUET) facility," which would greatly reduce the costs involved, says conference organizer Marion Kerans.

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Halifax's five universities are looking into the possibility of obtaining a satellite television channel for program delivery in communities remote from the various seats of learning. Any action on the idea however, (which has the blessing of the Association of Atlantic Universities) will only come following a feasibility study carried out by the AAU's Office of Educational Communications.

## OPINION

by Senator Lorna Marsden,  
Member of Sociology Department,  
University of Toronto

In the most recent speech from the throne, the Ontario government signaled its intention to extend affirmative action beyond the Ontario public service to other publicly funded institutions. Already school boards, municipalities and hospitals have been offered assistance to examine their employees and employment practices with a view to increasing opportunities for women. The offer consists of money to cover 75 percent of the salary of an affirmative action officer. There is also support for hiring a consultant to help establish a proper program. Universities, as publicly funded institutions, can expect to receive the same proposal soon.

And even without such an offer on the table, the Ontario Women's Directorate has an officer focusing on the universities and the situation facing women in them.

For the University of Toronto this pressure from the government should be most welcome. With our naked eyes we can see that women and men are not represented equally in the various occupational groups on our campuses. Whether or not the differences can be justified by anything more than the force of history, it is not yet possible to tell. There will be competing theories on this subject. Some of our colleagues will be outraged at the mere thought of affirmative action at the university.

Among faculty at this university (U. of T.) women appear to have been stuck at about 15 percent of full-time members for generations although the numbers are unclear. In the country as a whole, there has been no change in the proportion of women faculty since the Royal Commission on the Status of Women reported in 1970. Despite individual changes in some faculties and departments, no one at the University of Toronto can be complacent.

In her recent Report of the Royal Commission on Equality in Employment, Judge Rosalie Abella has provided a most thoughtful and well documented view of the situation of systemic discrimination in this country. Having put the case statistically, legally and bureaucratically, she goes on to say that systemic discrimination boils down to the fact that our social and economic systems are primarily designed for "white able-bodied males and this results in practices based on white able-bodied males' perceptions of everyone else".

At this university, as at similar institutions, that world view is disguised too often as "judging scholarly competence". Seldom are decisions made on the honoured

collegial scale dissected in a dispassionate fashion even where that is possible. Among faculty, then, ideas about affirmative action will be difficult, but not impossible, to institute. Among administrative staff, however, the challenge may be more similar to that already experienced in corporate settings elsewhere.

Judge Abella uses the term "employment equity" in her arguments. It is a term which the Honorable Robert Welch, minister responsible for women's issues in Ontario, has recently used in his speeches following Judge Abella's report. Affirmative action has come to mean those programs instituted in the US. In that country, there has been legislated or mandated action for the past 20 years. That is, firms and organizations are required to establish targets for hiring, timetables for reaching their targets and related programs by law. What we have been calling affirmative action in Canada is voluntary and as a consequence has quite a different meaning and scope. Employment equity is a preferable description because it sets out the goal while leaving the means of achieving it to further elaboration.

If the Ontario government intends to get us to install a review of hiring practices, of our internal labour markets as it were, by incentives rather than legislated penalties, the issues the university must face are quite different. And legislation does not appear to be on the horizon in Ontario.

For example, advancing women and minorities within the university who are already in the system is quite different from looking at the available labour pool in the geographic area and setting targets on the basis of the proportion of women and minorities with the required characteristics. The internal labour market approach is quite easy to establish but it does nothing to help those who have not got a foot already in the door. In fact, much of this has already been achieved in some categories of workers (such as librarians and academics) by salary review.

A detailed review of the literature on the US experience of the past 20 years reveals five quite different goals which those developing affirmative action programs might seek to achieve. Such a program could be a remedy to current or past discrimination. It might be an implicit or an explicit human resource policy. It can be a means of generating a new labour supply or a remedy to discrimination in the labour market structures. Finally, it could be a means of improving economic opportunity for disadvantaged or protected group

members. Each of these has been used somewhere in the US and each is a legitimate purpose for a program of employment equity. But they do have different consequences on the program—who is in charge, who designs it, who benefits—and on the organization.

At the University of Toronto we have a great deal to overcome. Not only are there many competing jurisdictions in colleges, faculties, and institutes with different personnel policies and practices but there is no central administrative body with sufficient power to impose a uniform scheme. The term "the University of Toronto" is something of a misnomer for such a federation as ours. Accounting to the Ontario government for our goals and timetables would not be easy.

In addition to the jurisdictions there are competing organizations and groups whose cooperation will be essential—the unions on campus, the associations of faculty and staff, the students, the myriad governing bodies and committees and the subtle "networks" which influence almost all decisions more than the established system. It will be easy to sideline such an effort by making one poor soul responsible for preparing the annual report and excusing all other administrators from taking action.

On the other hand, meeting the guidelines of the minister could turn into a very useful re-examination of some of the traditional practices and myths which haunt the university. It is, after all, no real threat to anyone or the job they currently hold. As Judge Abella points out in her report, her mandate was to make recommendations for employment equity for 60 percent of the Canadian population—women, visible minorities, native peoples and the handicapped. It is the majority of Canadians who find their life chances diminished by inequalities in employment—not a small number. The benefits to be gained in many of the disciplines in this university by looking seriously at the problem with which the government now confronts us are potentially very great indeed. The fact that we are not in a legislated situation frustrates those who realize the very great limits to voluntary action. But it does give us time to develop this change thoughtfully and effectively.

Since taking as much time as possible to bring about a change is a law of operation at the University of Toronto, we may find the provincial government's offer a highly congenial one.

(University of Toronto Bulletin)



## Adsum House: Away From The Fear

by Sister Phyllis Giroux, SC

"I felt secure . . . protected . . . away from the fear, away from the violence. If I didn't come here, I'm sure I would have committed suicide." Marie, a current resident at Adsum House in Halifax is quite clear in knowing what this emergency shelter for women means to her.

"I called a helpline and they told me about Adsum. I didn't have anywhere to turn. Here I'm not alone. It's given me a chance for life. It's here for anybody who needs help. Some take advantage, but you've got to want to help yourself."

Marie is one of the many women in the Halifax-Dartmouth area who need emergency housing and have nowhere to go. Many have lives complicated by violent relationships, unemployment, financial difficulties, health problems, lack of education and work skills.

a renovated family house on Brunswick Street, is owned by the City of Halifax, and rented to Adsum for a nominal fee. All the furnishings and much of the food for daily needs are donated, and various levels of government assist with per diem grants for qualifying women residents. Yet a number of the women who come to Adsum do not qualify for such grants and that means the house operates at a deficit, "about \$5,000 over the last three months," says Sister Virginia. Plans for an appeal to local corporations, women's groups, and individuals are underway to try to raise the needed funds.

Adsum House maintains links with various local services and facilities: Dalhousie Legal Aid Services, the North End Medical Clinic, Hope Cottage and the fledgling Halifax food bank. It is a non-sectarian facility, operated by The Association

eight weeks Adsum has had an of 15 women a night. One study indicated that in a one-month period, approximately 43 women are in need of emergency short-term housing in the Halifax-Dartmouth area. The long-term needs of the women who come to Adsum are often difficult to move on because of the high case load of municipal social service workers.

One of the hopes that Sister Virginia mentions is the establishment of another facility—a second stage housing project which would give women a home for a longer period while they begin to re-establish themselves.

### —House Policies—

Women staying at Adsum House are expected to follow certain house policies, including observing curfews, assisting with household duties and attending in-house meetings. Efforts are made to create a community or family spirit in the house, and to have residents develop a sense of working together for the good of the group.

The staff of Adsum includes advocacy workers, volunteers and residence workers. The strong core of dedicated volunteers are recruited, trained, supervised and evaluated by Sister Evelyn Pollard, SC, co-ordinator of volunteers and one of the founders of Adsum House, and they provide a variety of services from cooking to advocacy work on behalf of the residents. Advocacy workers seek out channels of assistance or options for the women to follow, supplying information, and motivation to sort out problems and find solutions.

A residence worker is on duty 24 hours a day and lives in the house. Darcelle Upshaw, a residence worker since Adsum opened, spoke of the large number of women who have emergency housing needs, "more than Adsum can cope with". "The women have problems, but they're human like us. You have to see past the problem, feel some of it. Somebody once asked me, 'What do you do with these kinds of women?' 'I couldn't answer the question because they're human too. We judge so easily.'"

Darcelle recalls one of the special moments she's had at Adsum: "One of the residents was going through withdrawal—alcohol and drugs. Bad family situation too. I can remember saying to her, 'Well, we can just sit and look at each other for another night if you want. Or maybe we can try something different—maybe lay on the rug and look at one another.' Maybe it was just accepting her like that, but she came back to me later and simply asked, 'Would you give me a hug?' and I gave her a hug. I think it was a bit of a breakthrough."

Salaries at Adsum aren't large. Why do people like Darcelle stay with it? "It's draining," she said, "but I've learned a lot. It offered me a lot,

and I guess I had a lot to offer too. It's something I want to do."

Adsum House is built on a foundation of involvement— involvement by volunteering time and energy, by becoming a member of the Association for Women's Residential Facilities, by contacting the Executive Director of Adsum House, by serving on the various committees of Adsum House, by financial support— involvement without which Adsum House wouldn't even be there for women like Marie, to help her deal with the violence, and the fear, and the hopelessness. The tall grey house on Brunswick Street speaks clearly to those who need someone to say "I am here".

Reprinted from the *Catholic New Times*

## Give Them Roses

After nine months of debate, the Council of the School of Graduate Studies at the University of Toronto has adopted a policy retroactive to September allowing maternity leave of one to three terms per pregnancy for graduate students.

Professor Rose Sheinin, vice-dean, who made the original proposal last May, called the adoption "the first recognition in university policy of the fact that women are women and that we should give them roses instead of penalizing them. It acknowledges that the years during which one normally pursues graduate work coincide with sexual productivity. The retroactivity is a gift to celebrate women in Toronto."

The new provision codifies an informal procedure and ensures that it applies to everyone equally, said Peter White, secretary of the graduate school. In the past, most women have asked for leave for health reasons, and whether or not they got an extension of their deadline varied with circumstances.

"Most graduate students are so committed to their program that they jolly well plan their families around it," White said. "No one knows for sure how many women the policy will apply to, but it's significant even if we've lost only one in the past."

Sheinin said she thought a significant number of young women may have dropped out of doctoral programs, but that no statistics were available.

Pramila Singh, president of the Graduate Students' Union, said that students were pleased with the policy and see parental leave for male graduate students as the next step. Money is also an issue, she said: "Although you're not required to pay fees under this policy, you can't hold a U of T scholarship either. People need money to live while they're on leave."

Congratulations, all!



Off to the nationals . . . left to right, back row: coach June Lumsden, Bev Scott, Donna Rice, Joyce Ledwidge, Patti Pike, Patti Brennan, Debbie Murray, Roberta Mentis. Front row, left to right: Jackie Coyle, Danna Garnett, Natalie Bird, Elizabeth Brideau, Alexis Sinclair, Kim Holmes.

## They Did Us Proud!

The Mount's volleyball team took third place at the Canadian College Athletic Association nationals held at Wascana College, Regina late last month.

June Lumsden, team coach and Athletics Officer at the Mount, said before they left, "I hope we play our best. Realistically I can see us coming fourth or fifth—whereas up to now we've come sixth (out of eight teams)."

It's been a heady year for the team, ranked fourth nationally all year. "It was a great opportunity for the team to travel," Lumsden said, "and particularly to experience a national championship." Air fares were courtesy of the CCAA but hotels and meals were paid for by money raised by the Athletics Department during the year with various events and 50/50 draws.

Team captains were Joyce Ledwidge, an honours home economics student of the Mount and public relations student Debbie Murray.

Jackie Coyle, a third-year business student was named an All-Canadian and most valuable player in the Nova Scotia conference and, in Regina, was also named to the all-Canadian volleyball team. Natalie Bird was named to the all-star Nova Scotia conference team.

Three members of the Mount's badminton team also went to national championships in Saskatoon.

Marcie Bishop, representing the Nova Scotia College Conference in women's singles, placed fifth; Anne Hanrahan and Sonya Aikens, placed fourth in women's doubles.

Congratulations, all!



Interuniversity  
Services Inc.

### Coming Events

April 3: Monitor Display, an opportunity to try a number of monitors with Apple and IBM computers. Administration Building, Saint Mary's University.

April 10: Computer Aided Design Using Microcomputers, a demonstration. 9 a.m. - 4 p.m., CAD Centre, Technical University of Nova Scotia.

April 16, 17: Apple IIc and Appleworks, a six-hour introductory workshop. Call 424-8893 for details and registration.

Kathy Nash, a graduate of the Atlantic Computer Institute, has joined the staff of Interuniversity Services Inc. and is available to assist M.I.C. clients at the centre daily from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Additional software available for preview at the centre includes Microsoft Word and Microsoft File for the Macintosh; and for the IBM-PC, Word Perfect, Samna Word III, Wordstar 2000, Dataease, Enable, Symphony, Graphing Assistant and Filesize Estimator.

## Give Us Your Views

The main objective of the **Connection** is to keep our faculty, students and staff informed and to present an external face to the media, government and other universities. It has evolved in the four years it has been issued. Now we need to know if it is meeting its objective internally and if it's worth continuing.

- |  | Yes                      | No                       |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Do you read it regularly?   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. Do the opinion pieces reflect the university?   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. Have you ever participated in an event because you read about it in <b>the Connection</b> ?                             | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. Does it reflect the university you know?  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5. Should it carry more details regarding board, senate and other important committee meetings?                            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 6. Should it carry reprinted (from other universities) research news, opinion pieces and other stories?                    | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 7. Does <b>the Connection</b> help to give the Mount an "image"?   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 8. Could the (human/financial) resources necessary to produce <b>the Connection</b> be put to better use? Any suggestions? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Please tick off and return to Room 215, Evaristus, through campus mail.

## First Impressions Count

First impressions count.

And the first impression you get at the Dalhousie Arts Centre is of the carpet. That carpet looks like it had 10 years of hard use at a daycare before it was ripped up and used as the surface for a tractor pull. Let's face it, the carpet has seen much better days.

If your mother saw that carpet on the floor of your new apartment, she'd make you move back into your old bedroom at home.

The Cohn needs a new carpet. It needs a welcome mat, for both the artists and the patrons. A committee including Arts Centre Director John Wilkes, and community members Brookes Diamond, Bill McArthur, Donna Thompson and Denis Ryan has come up with a sure fire way of getting that carpet. It's called the "LET'S CARPET THE COHN" concerts.

We've all benefitted by the Cohn. The 1041 seat facility is a jewel of the Canadian concert circuit. Good sightlines, superb acoustics, comfortable seating and a great staff. Artists love the room. In 14 years the place has presented shows as diverse as the Royal Winnipeg Ballet, Louis Armstrong, Pavoratti and the Chieftains.

Now both industry and artists are waiving all fees to put on three magical nights of entertainment. *ALL* of the money collected on April 18, 19 and 20 will go for carpeting the Cohn. Sponsorship from Eastern Provincial Airlines, Air Canada, the Lord Nelson Hotel, Halcraft Printers, the Atlantic Federation of Musicians and the local media and advertising industry is making it possible for artists to return and play for the Cohn.

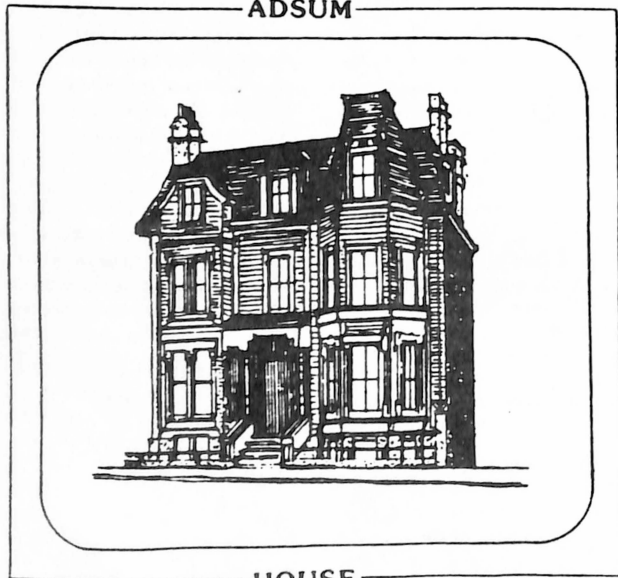
Each evening will be hosted by singer-raconteur Denis Ryan. On Thursday he'll be introducing artists like Andre Gagnon, a dancer from Les Grands Ballets Canadiens, Nadia Potts and Gregory Osbourne of the National Ballet, Symphony Nova Scotia with Boris Brott, Elyakim Taussig, the Dalhousie Chamber Choir under the direction of Melva Graham, Marlis Callow and Doug Johnson.

Some of the headliners for the Friday night contemporary concert are Dan Hill, Murray McLauchlan and Odetta.

Ceilidh Night, on Saturday, will bring together Rita MacNeil, John Allan Cameron, the fabulous Doorknobs, segments from the Rise and Follies of Cape Breton and the Cape Breton Fiddlers.

During each night's show the audience will participate in the new carpet selection by casting ballots on a variety of carpet swatches. You can actually have a say in what the Cohn looks like.

ADSUM



HOUSE

Adsum House, established in December 1983, can accommodate 15 to 18 women daily, sixteen years of age and over. It provides short-term accommodation, meals, clothing, information and referrals, advocacy, and in-house programs designed to meet the needs of women residents.

### —No Place To Go—

Sister Virginia Turner, SC, Executive Director of Adsum House, says that "the general public, though they accept the fact that there are men in need of shelter in our cities, find it hard to believe and accept that there are women who have no place to go." One of the realities that confronts Sister Virginia and the board and staff of Adsum is that women have to be turned away because there isn't enough room in the house. Other facilities in the city, designed for different needs of women, usually operate at capacity as well.

The building called Adsum House,

for Women's Residential Facilities, with a Board of Directors made up of interested persons volunteering their time and energy.

### —"I Am Here"—

The word Adsum means "I Am Here". It expresses the concern of the founding organizations for women in need and a willingness to help them. The logo of Adsum House represents two women standing under the protection of a shelter, with cross beams indicating a caring and protective environment.

Sister Virginia, in explaining Adsum, its work and the services it offers, points out that a key principle at Adsum is respect for the dignity of the women who come, helping them to regain or maintain that dignity. "not to make any judgments . . . simply to be there for them . . . as the name says 'I am here'."

The women who come are sometimes young, sometimes between 40 and 60 years old. For the last



## Dal Faculty Strike Dead But Not Forgotten

The threat of a faculty strike at Dalhousie University has subsided but many of the problems which brought the issue of a strike to the forefront have not gone away.

Chronic underfunding of Maritime universities and a budget deficit at Dalhousie have left the university in a precarious financial situation, a situation still facing the university even though the threatened strike was averted.

The threat of a faculty strike was a difficult issue to understand, particularly to a public whose most visible image of the university was that of an institution already under serious financial constraints.

The following are some thoughts from the Mount's perspective.

"I don't think the public would have been very sympathetic to a strike," says Dr. Peter Schwenger, president of Mount Saint Vincent's faculty association. "People don't realize the time demands on a university professor. They think a typical professor lectures a few hours a week and does little else, when in reality faculty may work up to 14 hours a day."

Schwenger said a strike would have had a disastrous effect on all university faculty in the area. He said an already poor image of faculty might have been aggravated by a strike and the public might end up blaming the professors.

Even students were not sympathetic. While they had legitimate concerns about short-term problems with their education, Schwenger pointed out that a semester of courses would be easier to recover from than the possible financial ruin striking professors could face.

"Not many people realize that professors would have to live on strike pay of about \$35 a week. By striking, they would be putting everything on the line," he said, risking the financial well-being of their families. "Even students who don't have family responsibilities couldn't live on \$35 a week," he said.

—two motions passed—

Had the strike happened, the Mount faculty association would have been supportive of the move. The same day as the strike was called off, the results of a mail-out ballot to Mount faculty were tabulated. Those who voted were clearly in support of the Dalhousie faculty's position. Two motions were passed.

The first read: "Moved that the Mount Saint Vincent University Faculty Association supports the Dalhousie Faculty Association in its dispute with the Dalhousie Board of Governors. We urge the Board to meet the concerns of faculty, in order to avert a strike which would be damaging to higher education throughout Nova Scotia" and was passed with 61 in favour, 9 opposed and 13 abstentions.

The second motion read: "Moved that we support any Mount faculty who teach at Dalhousie in whatever

decision they make according to their conscience, should there be a strike," and carried with 64 in favour, 6 oppositions and 13 abstentions.

Schwenger said the threatened strike had heightened the interest of Mount faculty to some issues. Pension security was an issue in the Dalhousie action. At the Mount there had been an investigation of pension plans underway for some time, he said.

A faculty pension committee was currently trying to clarify the meaning of the plan so that everyone would be clear on what it entailed.

Schwenger said this investigation was happening before the threatened strike. The problems Dalhousie was having make the discussion even more timely for the Mount, he said.

The book on the Dalhousie faculty strike was officially closed on February 21st when Dalhousie announced to the media that its faculty had signed a three-year agreement. The conflict was officially over but it would not soon be forgotten by Dalhousie or any other university's faculty in Nova Scotia, he said.

## Student Aid

Students should contact the Financial Aid Office, Student Services, Rosaria Centre Room 119 for information on student aid, including the following:

- \* Halifax branch of the Canadian Federation of University Women Bursary, valued at \$600. Application deadline May 15.

- \* Rotary Foundation Scholarships, graduate and undergraduate. Application deadlines vary.

- \* Donald E. Curren Scholarships, valued at \$1000. Application deadline August 15.

- \* Allister MacLeod Scholarship, Value \$500. Application deadline July 31.

- \* Summer Language Bursary Program.

- \* Alice Egan Hagen Memorial Scholarship, value \$500. Application deadline May 30.

- \* Leslie V. Sansom Continuing Education Scholarship. Application deadline May 15.

- \* Part-time Student Merit Scholarship, value: tuition credit vouchers for three units of course work. Application deadline May 15.



Open Campus Days, held at the Mount each year during the high school spring break, is a good way to give potential students a look at the campus first-hand. Close to 200 students from around Nova Scotia and other Maritime provinces took advantage of the opportunity this year, with an itinerary including workshops, campus tours and a chance to sit in on classes and talk with professors and Mount students.

Shown above, discussing the program, are (left to right): Charlotte Martin, the admissions office; Theresa Francis, student union president; resident assistant Darlene Braunmiller; and admissions assistant Alice MacKichan.

## University Financing Changes Necessary—McLean

OTTAWA—Secretary of State Walker McLean told a group of university presidents recently that there should be changes to the way the federal and provincial governments finance universities.

He called for improved core funding for universities saying it is "fundamental to anything else that we want to achieve".

Speaking at a meeting of the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada (AUCC), McLean noted that federal transfers to the provinces for post-secondary education would increase by 7.3 per cent in 1985-86, but that he was unable to say whether that increase would be reflected in university operating budgets.

(Nova Scotia to receive \$156,369.)

McLean pointed to the fact that there was no link between federal support for post-secondary education and the funding actually received by the universities. Provincial grants to universities have generally grown more slowly than federal transfers, he said.

"It's this kind of lack of harmony between federal and provincial support for post-secondary education that I've been talking about with provincial ministers over the last two to three months. And we intend to continue our consultations because I think there is a general understanding that a problem exists and that we need to tackle it jointly," he said.

He went on to say that he and his provincial counterparts "have agreed that the time is ripe for us to establish new linkages, which will eliminate the kinds of discords which have stood in the way of federal-provincial cooperation".

He also called for increased funding for research and said that while the federal government was not looking "to exert undue control over research . . . there are certain strategic themes relevant to government priorities and concerns which require research support for the good of society in general". He said this would include research in the social sciences and the humanities.

## Not Training Too Many Teachers

Responding to a recent editorial in Halifax Chronicle Herald which questioned the continued training of more and more teachers, when, in fact, many teachers were out of work, Dr. Susan Clark, Dean of Human and Professional Development said, "In the case of the Mount, the numbers of students coming here to take a Bachelor of Education degree have decreased considerably. For instance in 1975-76 we enrolled 131 B.Ed. students, while in 1984-85 we enrolled only 70."

Dean Clark pointed out, "We have made a conscious choice to increase in-service programs for existing teachers and to emphasize graduate programs for those who are already qualified, rather than training new teachers in the numbers that we used to."

She took issue with a statement in the editorial which said that students should be steered toward careers with better opportunities. "There are teaching careers available in industry and in large corporations as well as in schools," she said, "and an education degree can be very useful in these cases. Many corporations have their own training programs these days where teachers could well find opportunities for employment. It's enormously difficult to predict just where the jobs are likely to be."

Clark felt that education could not simply be weighed by its dollar costs. "It's a benefit both to the individual and the community and we need to take a broader view."

Entrance requirements for education students at the Mount were very stringent and there were always many more applicants than those finally accepted, she said. Some of those accepted already had associate degrees from the Nova Scotia Teacher's College.



Easter celebrations in Evaristus Chapel are as follows: Holy Thursday, April 4—Mass of the Lord's Supper at 4 p.m.; Good Friday, April 5—Good Friday Celebration at 3 p.m.; Saturday, April 6—Easter Vigil at 9 p.m.

The Vigil will begin with the blessing of the new fire on the terrace outside Rosaria Centre. Everyone is asked to assemble in the lobby outside the Registrar's Office, Rosaria. Two Catechumens will be received into the Catholic faith at this celebration.



Antiques . . . One of the hits of the last Mount Happy Hour was a display of pictures taken in earlier times of faculty and administration. The pictures were resurrected from old public relations office files, and more will be at the April 12 get-together. Come and see the way we used to be. Sharing some of the memories above, are (left to right): Dr. Erdener Kaynak, Sister Agnes Paula, Dorothy West, Pat Butler and Sister Olga McKenna.

YEAR ROUND, from pg 1

there was a 100 per cent vacancy at that time which resulted in a deficit on the operation of the residences. However, for the past 10 years," Merrigan said, "we have been involved in the conference business. We have a very high occupancy rate during this period resulting in our residences being fully used and we no longer have a deficit."

Merrigan pointed out that the Board of Trade should realize that not only does the university eliminate its residency deficit, but actually helps the tourist industry by making accommodation available during peak periods. "If the universities were to withdraw these facilities during the summer months," he said, "it would be necessary for motel and hotel operators to provide accommodation to meet summer peak periods, which would force them to carry debt loads for facilities which would be vacant during the winter months. The other alternative would be to have tourists coming to this province who could not find suitable accommodation," he said.

"In the early days when universities entered the conference business "we were accused of being in unfair competition with the tourist industry, but this has changed and it now seems that our university facilities are 'complementing' and not 'competing with' hotel and motel operations", he said.

"In fact, many of our summer occupants are referred to us by the tourist bureau and hotels."

Jean Hartley, associate director of the Mount's Centre for Continuing Education said, "We run a very active summer school of more than 1,000 students and take in almost a quarter of a million dollars in summer school fees, so we are making good use of our facilities."

"It's easy to say," she continued, "that faculty only teach for eight months of the year, but university professors need time to update their knowledge and do research."

She pointed out that the Mount's co-operative education students worked on a 12-month basis which

operated on a tri-semester system. However, costs for this type of system were high because, she said, "you need a third more faculty."

The season's finale

# MSVU COMMUNITY HAPPY HOUR

will be held 4-6 p.m.  
April 12  
Don MacNeil Room, Rosaria Centre  
(Come see what you've been missing!)

## Feminist Historian for Next Lecture

Next in the Mount's special Women's Studies Lecture Series will be feminist historian Ruth Roach Pierson, from the history, philosophy, and sociology in education departments of the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education. She will talk about organizational violence from both an ideological and experiential perspective and about the relationship between women and organizational violence. Everyone is welcome to her talk to be held at 3:00 p.m., Tuesday, April 2 in the Don MacNeil Room, Rosaria Centre.

## Trying Something Different

Kiwi fruit, guacamole (a Mexican dip), pita chips (from Lebanese bread) and other unusual and exotic foods tempted visitors to "try something different" at the Mount's Food Fair, organized by three home economics students in instructor Nancy Gilbert's foods and nutrition class.

Students Candy Bailey, Mary Walsh and Heather Cutler used the food fair as a way to promote their program to high school students visiting the Mount during open campus days.

"When we first came to the Mount to take home economics, we didn't really know what to expect," Cutler said, "so we thought a food fair would give high school students an idea of what our foods and nutrition

## Café Français —Oui, Oui!

Are you among the members of the Mount community who have been wondering all year long if your French could get you past the door of Marillac's Cafe Francais?

Hesitate no longer: Marillac's cafe caters to all levels of French. Among the residents are those who can strike up a conversation with any beginner, as well as those who can hold their own in any repartee.

On Wednesday, April 3 from 2 to 4 p.m. Marillac opens its Cafe Francais doors to celebrate the end of the academic year in style. Drop in for a cup of coffee or a homemade delicacy.

class is all about."

Scattered among the goodies were many books and pamphlets on food and nutrition to emphasize the more serious side of the program.

Local suppliers were generous with donations. Farmer's Co-operative Dairy Limited supplied samples of their fruit juice "Nature's Wonder" and a selection of their newest milkshakes. Peninsula Farms in Lunenburg County sent along samples of yoghurt cheese, while Sobey's Limited and Willet Foods also donated foodstuffs.

Bailey and Walsh are both graduating this Spring; and will go to internships in Newfoundland and Calgary, respectively.

Cutler is a third-year home economics student and will be returning to the Mount.





## In Memoriam

Sympathy is extended to the following members of the Mount community: Eric Densmore, on the death of his mother; Frances Cody on the death of her father; and Ronald Blinn, on the death of his father.

## Peace Studies — Why And How?

A symposium on peace studies, offered by the Mount's Arts and Sciences Promotion Committee recently brought about 25 of the university community together for a lunch-hour discussion on how peace studies might become a reality.

Various aspects of peace studies were presented by Dr. Bill Hunter, Dr. Frances Early and Dr. Larry Fisk, incorporating their own thoughts, hopes and fears on the possibility of expanding peace studies at the Mount.

There are already two existing courses which fall under this category—The Politics of the Arms Race with Dr. Larry Fisk, and the Anthropology of War and Aggression with Dr. Barnett Richling. In addition there are three courses that deal indirectly with peace—Dr. Frances Early's Protest Movements in the United States; Dr. Renate Usmiani's Masterpieces of World Literature and Dr. Peter Schwenger's Writing the End.

The three panelists laid the groundwork for their audience—Hunter giving an overview of the programs already in place here, Early commenting on peace studies programs in other Canadian, American and British universities and Fisk, acting rather as a devil's advocate, giving his reservations about the whole concept of peace studies.

Fisk said, "I share a conviction with Reinhold Niebuhr which undoubtedly accounts for the reservations I have expressed. He said, 'The truth as it is contained in Christian revelation includes and recognizes that it is neither possible for (man) to know the truth fully, nor to avoid the error of pretending that (he) does'."

The task of teaching peace studies was enormous, he said.

"It is so significant, so complex that I wonder if it is possible to facilitate the achievement of knowledge and awareness that is needed." He said he had been surprised how many people who had been in the peace movement all their lives "and are much more knowledgeable than I am about the subject" wanted to come to his

course. "It's the expectation of expertise that is hard to cope with," he said.

Fisk was also afraid that by putting peace studies in place at the Mount "we might just be establishing another discipline with some of its 'narrow' expertise and there might also be a tendency on the part of students to substitute the study of peace for the on-going struggle for a deeper understanding and perhaps some action in the outside world."

Early pointed out that at Conrad Grebel College, University of Waterloo, (the only Canadian university with a degree course in peace studies) students had formed a Peace Society which initiated action coming from their studies.

A similar society had also been formed by students at Colgate University in the United States. Peace studies graduates had, she said, gone on to jobs in a wide variety of fields such as business, teaching, religion, law, journalism, labour and co-operative farming.

From the audience, Dr. Barry Wheaton expressed the fear that there would be many problems in having peace studies cross into so many disciplines and Early pointed out that peace studies are interdisciplinary rather than transdisciplinary. She said that many disciplines should be involved in the study of peace, including psychology, sociology, anthropology, economics, history, philosophy, religion, modern languages, literature and physics.

"Peace studies is a very broad concept indeed and needs the input of many disciplines," she said. She also felt that social responsibility and academic accountability were part and parcel of it.

Marion Kerans, co-ordinator for the Women's International Peace Conference to be held here in June, felt that the Mount, as primarily a women's university, could provide tremendous opportunities for "something that might emerge from the conference."

The question of objectivity in the teaching of peace studies was raised and Fisk said, "I have long been convinced that a common notion of objectivity and balance as being value-free, logical, open and detached observation was a parody of the larger objectivity of courage, commitment, integrity, humility and discernment. The latter and not the former is likely the hard and uncertain road to the sagacity required in confronting these issues."

It was felt that interest in peace studies appeared to be growing slowly but surely at the Mount and perhaps the statement written on the blackboard by Early gave added urgency to the question.

"Since World War Two there have been 130 wars and combined casualties of 30 million people."

*Editor's Note: And all without a major war between the two superpowers!*



## Daffodil Day

**REMINDER:** Don't forget to drop by the tables set up in Rosaria and Seton lobbies on Wednesday, April 3, between 11:30 a.m. and 2:30 p.m., to buy a bunch of Canadian Cancer Society's daffodils. Ten daffodils will be sold for \$2.50, with proceeds going to the cancer society.

## SIXTY YEARS, from pg 1

people to safer parts of the city. The elderly sisters were evacuated first, to the Halifax Infirmary which they owned then and to houses owned by the Sisters of Charity or members of their families located in the city.

Although the campus was declared unsafe, Sister Francis and others made short forays between the tremors, to pick up things they needed—food, water, blankets, flashlights.

Sister Francis says one of her most vivid memories of that time was "just at sunrise, with the biggest tremor of them all and the red dawn sky, and silhouetted against it were the figures of the three priests who had come with us, blessing the crowd." It's a dramatic image.

That day, the feast of Saint Vincent was celebrated in the field.

When it was safe to come back to the campus, it was to find "heaps of glass, not just here and there, but everywhere". Some of the rooms were intact so they were cleaned up and summer classes resumed. "But it was years before everything was restored".

It was the second explosion Sister Francis d'Assisi had seen at the Mount. During the Halifax Explosion, of 1917, the sisters and students evacuated to St. Joseph's Hill and could look over the fires "here and there all over the city". Some of the sisters were from Halifax, and no one could know if her own home was destroyed or her family safe. Rockingham was not affected as badly as the north end of the city, but it was a time of great concern for all.

Survivors streamed out of the city and the Mount became a haven for many of them. It took weeks to have glass replaced and the buildings certified safe—including the chapel. As Sister Francis d'Assisi says, together with the Mount fire in 1951, these were three catastrophes she lived through at Mount Saint Vincent.

## Problem With Smoke?

A safety committee has been formed at Mount Saint Vincent University, to address the matter of smoking in the workplace. (See The Connection, February 18 for further details).

Anyone on campus who would like to express a concern on a problem area, and possible solutions, should submit written comments to the Safety Committee, c/o Personnel Office before April 12.

## Another Women's Studies Chair

The universities of Manitoba and Winnipeg have been awarded \$500,000 by the Secretary of State to establish a chair in Women's Studies. The two universities were the successful applicants for the prairie provinces and the Northwest Territories in this national program which has fostered the creation of five such endowments across Canada. (The first at Mount Saint Vincent University).

The Chair in Women's Studies is a significant step forward for Manitoba. Traditionally working in the vanguard of women's issues, Manitoba's women's groups have unanimously voiced a need for researchers to organize and analyze information to help understand the role that women will play in the transitions that affect the workplace, the family and the society.

The establishment of this new chair will help facilitate that research while building bridges to the community at large.

The funding for the chair will be forwarded to the universities in 1986-87. Between now and then, a committee will conduct a search for the first occupant of the chair and will finalize the administrative structure.

**the connection**

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