

# This week in the Student Council

## Oct 30 and Nov 6

By Colleen Easter

### ALCOHOL AWARENESS CAMPAIGN

October 17 marked the start of the alcohol awareness campaign "If You Drink Don't Bowl". The campaign runs for seven weeks so keep your eyes out for the fantastic posters with the important message. You may even want to steal one for your room. Ray Murphy thinks the campaign is going great. Why don't you tell him what you think?

### CROSSWALKS

For those of you who have not noticed the bright yellow crosswalks adorning our campus, they are the work of the student council. According to Patricia Embleton, we even ran out of yellow paint! Hopefully all students will now use them and the drivers on campus will have less fear of killing students who don't

look both ways before they cross the street.

### PAST ELECTIONS

The Chief Returning Officer reported on the results of the recent Student Union election. Chantal Theriault, Erin Hutchins, Nelson MacRae, Scott Campbell and Anika Larkin won seats on the council. That's the good news. The bad news is that only 4.2% of the full time registered students voted. The newly elected councillors were sworn in on November 6.

### FUTURE ELECTIONS

The voter turnout for the last election was lamentable. However we all have a chance to try again! There will be an election on November 28, 29, and 30 for 3 arts reps, 1 nursing rep, 1 senate rep, 1 ombudsperson, 1 education rep and the senior class executive. Please use this

election to redeem yourself and get out and vote!

### STUDENT PROTEST

During the Oct 16 meeting, the student council decided not to hold a student strike over Lloyd Axworthy's discussion paper unless negotiations with the government fail to alter the report. Nevertheless, plans for a student protest have been going strong. November 16 has been set as protest day. An information booth will be set up in the pit, letters to MP's will be written, black ribbons will mourn the possible loss of education and lots more. Just remember, not protesting now could mean a \$50,000 debt for your education.

### ACCESSIBILITY REPORT

The committee on the university's accessibility report is working on getting bigger room

number sign for classrooms and larger buttons in the elevators, along with other improvements to the university. Anyone interested in giving recommendations for the report should contact Ray Murphy.

### PRESIDENT'S TRAVELS

President Andrew MacPherson has been very busy lately. He started by meeting with M. Dingwell of ACOA and the presidents of the maritime universities. Last Tuesday he had a meeting with Hillsborough MP George Prud'homme. On Wednesday he was in Halifax with other Student Union presidents to meet the infamous Lloyd Axworthy. Then he was off to Ottawa for the CFS general meeting.

### THE BARN

Finley Martin reported that the recent performance of Great Big Sea was a great success. Tickets have gone on sale for Terry Kelly's appearance at the Barn on November 28. Don't forget that Purple Helmets will be performing on New Year's Eve.

## Student teacher evaluations

By Colleen Easter

DURING THE SENATE MEETING ON November 4, the UPEI Senate passed a motion to delay the vote on mandatory student teacher evaluations until their December meeting. This delay was in order to give the Faculty Association time to look at the motion and give the Senate feedback and recommendations. This will almost assuredly make the evaluations non-mandatory for this semester. I believe this was a grave insult to the students of UPEI and I am unhappy with the Senate's actions.

It is my understanding that when the motion came to the forefront of interest last year (the fall of 1993), the Senate gave the issue to the Faculty Association so they could prepare a report on the subject. Apparently, the Senate waited throughout the year for this report but the Faculty Association never submitted one. Earlier in the fall, the Senate actually voted on the issue. It was later learned that an incorrect calculation of the number of Senators needed to vote on closing the debate made the vote invalid.

These were the reasons the issue appeared on the agenda of the latest meeting. Once again the Faculty Association decided they needed time to make recommendations to the Senate. The Senate agreed and delayed the vote. As a student of this university, this action has upset me greatly.

Every day I go to class and get deadlines for all sorts of work: reports, assignments,

papers. I usually manage to hand them in on time. I have never missed a deadline. If I had missed one, however, I could not ask my professor to hold my final mark while I finished the necessary work. I could not get the credit for work I could not be bothered to complete on time. Yet it seems that this is precisely what the Faculty Association is doing with the Senate.

The Faculty Association has had all of last year to make any recommendations they wanted. I cannot blame them, however, for continuing to try to get what

they want. I am more upset with the Senate for allowing this to occur. In real life I have never been allowed this kind of leeway and I doubt many other students have been either.

Students want the evaluations for the betterment of the university and the enhancement of teaching. We don't want to make professors look bad or be boycotted. We want to give them suggestions to enhance the learning process and give additional information to the decision makers when it comes to awards and tenure. I don't think this is some horrible thing. And thanks to the combined efforts of the Senate and the Faculty Association this, what I consider an important endeavour will not take place this semester. The enhancement of teaching has been slowed by one more semester due to the far too generous nature of the UPEI Senate.

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## Media: College paper shut down

By Jill-Beth Rosenthal and Aubrey Cohen

(CUP)  
DAWSON COLLEGE BIGWIGS SHUT down the student newspaper Nov. 10, after editors of The Plant refused to allow school representatives to check the newspaper before going to print.

The decision came a week after The Plant ran a cover photo of a naked man with an erect penis holding a condom. Michelle Clabrough, Dawson's head of student services, pulled the issue for fear of being sued, later allowing editors to paint over the offending phallus.

Last week, the student association's media council ordered the paper's editorial board to allow an advisor from the administration and a media council representative to look over the entire paper before going to the printer.

The Plant refused to comply with this ultimatum. In response, the media council voted 2-1, with three abstentions, to close down the paper.

Sean Garrety, editor-in-chief of The Plant, speculated that the paper was not the real issue. "The issue is, more or less, 'Who's running whom?'" he said. "I know who it is, and it's Dawson. When it comes to legalities, they are going to be very anal."

Lauren Kisilevsky, a media council member, said that a Board of Governors representative-- the college's highest decision-making body-- advised them that the board was already considering action. She added that the council mistook this person's opinion for fact.

"We were told that if we didn't do something that strong, that The Plant would be closed down forever," she explained. Richard Blake, another member of the council, apolo-

gized for the mistake. "We did not look into the whole thing thoroughly," Blake added.

Clabrough commented that the authority of the media council to shut down the paper is "questionable," and that the constitution does not make a direct reference to it.

The media council, Clabrough and the editorial board of the paper met to find a short-term solution to the conflict after Plant staffers were locked out of the offices.

In the end, they agreed that representatives of the council, the Board of Governors and The Plant will meet to review the final issues of the paper this semester after they are printed, but before

distribution.

Clabrough will serve as the board representative. She will still have final say as to whether or not an issue will be distributed. She said her criteria for this decision will be based on her "personal judgment."

"I'm looking from a legal perspective," she said.

Garrety said any representative from the paper will only be able to defend The Plant's decisions.

"Legally, Dawson's our publisher. Our hands are tied," he said. "I don't like it all, but I'm going to lose the battle and win the war."

Garrety explained that he wants to incorporate the paper by the beginning of next semester, and become autonomous from the administration. "We wouldn't be going through all this BS if we were [autonomous]," he noted.

(Source: the Link, Concordia University, and The McGill Daily, McGill University)



The day the Sesame Street typewriter was fired.

### Note to our readers:

Next week's issue will be the last of the semester, just thought we'd let you know.

November 15, 1994

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