

The Red & White

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- EDITORIAL -

EXPLODING THE MYTH

There is no foundation to the commonly heard cry that St. Dunstan's University is devoid of college spirit. For too long the students and faculty have cultivated the myth that St. Dunstan's lacks an *esprit de corps*. An examination of events that occurred during this semester should, but probably will not, silence those who maintain that the University is destitute in this regard.

For example, attendance at football games this year was excellent. More than one-seventh of the student population travelled to Halifax for the Saints' game against St. Mary's. More than one-sixth of the students travelled to Sackville to support the team against Mount Allison. Let those who are looking for college spirit at St. Dunstan's look there.

The Students' Union and the Alumni Association joined forces to sponsor a highly successful Homecoming Weekend at St. Dunstan's—the first in the University's 112 year history. The students played host to student leaders from more than sixteen Maritime universities when the Students' Union sponsored the fall conference of the Association of Atlantic Students last month. Only an explosion of college spirit could have made these two projects the success they were. The same can be said about the very successful Charlottetown Thinkers Conference sponsored by the St. Dunstan's University Liberal Club, at which thirteen Maritime university clubs were represented.

Thirty-seven students tried out for positions on the varsity hockey team; thirty-five tried out for the football team; twenty-one tried out for the basketball team. Twenty-four students tried out for the eight positions on the debating team. That's college spirit.

The explosion of activity that campus organizations experienced this term is an integral part of that nebulous — nevertheless real — commodity often referred to as college spirit. Treasure Van sales at St. Dunstan's exceeded \$1700, comparing favourably with those of any university in Canada. Both political clubs on campus (the Liberals and the Conservatives) sent a record number of club members as delegates to regional and national meetings of their respective associations. The Social Committee, the Drama Society and the Red and White enjoyed the active support of the students. The class parties were almost too successful. Certainly none can deny they received the patronage of the students.

Above all, the faculty of St. Dunstan's have demonstrated a strong interest in student activities. The contributions which Father Arsenaux has made to drama at the university, that Father Bolger has made to debating, that Father Kelly has made to special projects, that Father Landrigan has made to the Foreign Students Society, and that Joe Revell has made to the Students' Union are just a few examples among the faculty where college spirit has clearly been demonstrated. Let those who are looking for an *esprit de corps* at S.D.U. look here.

All is not perfect at St. Dunstan's University. Justifiable criticism can be hurled at both the students and the faculty. However, one commodity that both possess is an abundance of college spirit.

THIS MONTH'S ALIBIS:

- Somebody has to flunk
- Conditions are bad all over
- I've adjusted to low grades
- I'm saving my brains for real life
- Who are you going to believe, me or a substitute teacher with a temporary certificate
- Sure I worry about grade — but worry more about a favourable pupil image



LETTERS

Dear Sir,

I am writing this letter on November 25; by the time your paper is published it will be much later. Where is the exam schedule? The S.D.U. Calendar states that exams begin on December 12. I understand that night classes have their exams a week earlier! Since we have no October exams, the least we could expect is a schedule a month before the Christmas exams. We hope there is some improvement in the future.

—Sophomore Students

Dear Sir,

Kindly provide me this opportunity to congratulate one of the student officials on a job well done. I refer to the action taken recently by the student's prefect on first floor Memorial.

Lest the feat of this humble man passes unnoticed, I shall relate herein the story. As the students know, one of the disciplinary rules at SDU states, in brief: "No booze in residence." But the average prefect, priest or student, being quite lax in the exercise of this measure, usually await for a

little din or noisy chaos to erupt from one of the rooms before marching in and confronting the students, point-blank, catching them red-handed with booze.

But not our Jack. No sir, if Jack is given some duties, he makes certain they are carried out properly. Instead of waiting for the boys to have a party, our hero lurks in the corridors until the boys have left the building, then quietly slips into their room, makes away with the evidence, and reports the culprits to the proper authorities.

Therefore, it is only fitting, Mr. Editor, that this man should receive some recognition. Indeed, there are few like him here at St. Dunstan's. Congratulations, Jack. Undoubtedly, you will be remembered by the Senior Class.

—A Senior

Dear Sir,

The education courses on this campus are a waste of time. Grammar and arithmetic, etc., must be stressed, but to the extent of three hours a week? Surely one hour a week would suffice for what has to be taught. These are more like

"elementary grades refresher" courses than method courses. The only advantage I can see to these classes is that they will separate the teachers from the non-teachers — not by passes for failures in the courses. Anyone who survives a year of this must want to teach awfully bad. Instead of being encouraged, I think most are being discouraged. I might add that these courses are required before one can teach.

I know that it would profit a person more to take an academic course — and Education maybe once a week — than to waste an entire period three times a week for a year. I write this with the hope that someone in authority will study the matter closely.

—A Bored Student Teacher

Dear Sir,

Let me congratulate those in the Alumni Association and the Students' Union who organized the Alumni Weekend two weeks ago. They did a tremendous job, and everyone enjoyed themselves. I'm sure. Again, congratulations.

—Alvin Curley

Dear Sir,

The date is Monday, November 28th. On this grand and historic day, exactly 1½ weeks before the Christmas exams, our administration has finally seen fit to post an exam schedule.

It would not be a very great exaggeration to say that in the final month before exams, a students' entire assignment and study program would normally be governed by this timetable.

And yet, after having had an entire term to draw up this schedule, the administration, in complete disregard for the academic welfare of the student body, has delayed posting it until the last possible moment. So in addition to the usual pressures which must necessarily come to bear on the university student, the students of this institution cannot even guess what to study when until the exams are almost upon them.

Many of our professors will stoutly declare that the purpose of our being here is to educate ourselves, not merely to pass exams. But the fact remains that unless these exams are indeed taken and passed, our education will come to an abrupt end.

Educating oneself may be a very noble and worthy occupation for September, October, January, February and March. But in November and April, I'm sure the students would appreciate at least knowing when these five or six upcoming interruptions in their education are going to take place.

—A Senior

ACROSS THE NATION

VANCOUVER (CUP) — University of British Columbia students will campaign Nov. 28 in a provincial by-election in the Cariboo riding.

The vacancy created by the Social Credit government for attorney-general Robert Bonner, ousted from his Vancouver-Point Grey riding in September by freshman Liberal Gardom.

OTTAWA (CUP) — The seven universities which quit the Canadian Union of Students this fall will be billed for services they received up to the date of their withdrawals.

The union's board of directors, meeting here at the weekend, voted unanimously in favor of charging "the poopers" for services they received from Aug. 1 through their departure dates.

VANCOUVER (CUP) — University of British Columbia male residence students are demanding fewer restrictions for their female counterparts.

A private petition, initiated by lower Mall resident Martin Dunn, is presently circulating the men's residences.

The petition requests women residents be "under no greater restriction and obligations without their consent or written instruction from their parents than the men".

WINDSOR (CUP) — More than 150 University of Windsor residence students suffered food poisoning after eating in the university cafeteria Wednesday (Nov. 16).

This is the first time Windsor has ever had a food poisoning incident, the university food services manager said.

Tests are being conducted to determine the exact cause of the illness.

HALIFAX (CUP) — Women from Mount Saint Vincent University, a small all-girl college here, will no longer be invited to attend movies at a nearby men's university.

Residents at St. Mary's College say the Mount girls have been refused admission to the regular events because of an article which appeared in The Picaro MSVU's student newspaper.

The article contained a review of one of the movies along with a personal attack on the audience, they say.

Now the "Mounties" will be barred from the movies unless they attend as the date of a St. Mary's man.