

# Thumbs down on Dean

The GAZETTE is recommending that students not pay \$2 to see John Dean. An opportunist, Mr. Dean is a yes-man until his own tail becomes suspect. He was let off easy because he talked and because U.S. justice favors the big swindlers. Now he is literally trying to make Canadians pay for his crimes. Many Students Unions in the U.S. have refused to support such opportunism. Why have we been suckered into paying between \$1000 and \$2000 (the actual amount is secret) to subsidize this kind of, in justice? The Student Union Entertainment Department has made a grave mistake bringing him to Halifax. The students should not endorse this mistake.

Unfortunately the students will already foot the bill. The idea is to give notice to those who selected Mr. Dean that students will not stand for such actions. What Mr. Dean will have to say to us will reveal nothing not already on the public record. Undoubtedly his speech will consist of anecdotes designed to amuse the audience. Better time will be spent talking with friends at your favorite pub.

# Clean up the act

Well, the union-administration confrontation which threatened Dalhousie for over seven months is over.

However, before dismissing the whole affair to some dark corner of the archives, here is what might have been done to avert January's confusion.

Dalhousie could have signed the contract much earlier than they did (Jan. 28). Irving Oil, for instance, had set a precedent when, in an agreement with their employees, they ignored the anti-inflation board and averted strike action.

The board frowned on the Irving deal, but threw no temper tantrum. It was understood that the contract would have to be approved once a federal-provincial anti-inflation agreement was finally reached sometime in February. Why didn't Dal do the same thing? Well they did, but they took their sweet time about it.

The provincial government themselves set a precedent. They signed a contract with the teachers which should have gone before the anti-inflation board. Yet, they frowned on Dalhousie's action.

Student Union president Bruce Russell, in a letter to Minister of Consumer Services Maynard McAskill, called for government intervention. He received a politely worded "Fuck off little boy". Responsive government? Responsible government?

Finally, there is the union executive. This union had been without a contract since June 1975; yet, the only positive action that its leadership took was to set a strike date of January 28. Then, after howling about administration waffling, the executive was about to prolong the confusion by moving the strike date back to February 10. This is hardly what one would call strong leadership.

What can be said? Perhaps all concerned should clean up their act -- the whole thing stunk da joint out.

The Dalhousie GAZETTE is the weekly publication of the Dalhousie Student Union. The views expressed in the paper are not necessarily those of the Student Union or the editor. We reserve the right to edit copy for space or legal reasons. The deadline for letters to the GAZETTE is the Monday preceding publication. No unsigned material will be accepted, but anonymity, if necessary, will be granted. The Dalhousie GAZETTE, Canada's Oldest College Newspaper, is a founding member of the Canadian University Press. The Dalhousie GAZETTE office is Room 334 of the Student Union Building, telephone 424-2507. The subscription price is \$5.00 per year (27 issues).

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Assistant Editors

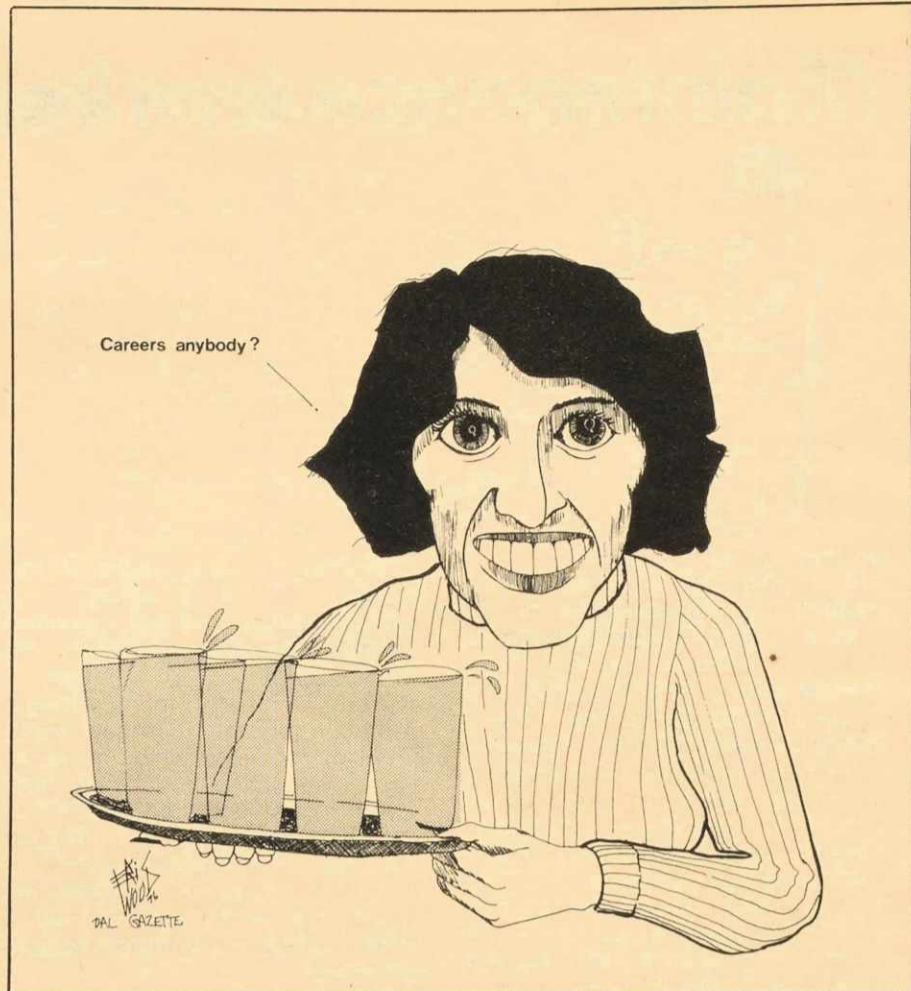
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## Letters

### Observant student

Referring to a January 15 article entitled "Purse thieves rampant in metro" and the sentence "The last one caught was a male two months ago." the Gazette received the following letter.

To the Gazette,  
A good article but it's value is marred by the continued work by this rascal on the staff of your printing centre not to mention his lottery ticket racket. How come you not report on that? A friend

### Kranz unfair

To the Gazette:  
I feel I must respond to the 'Comment' on the Killam Library in the January 22nd edition of the Gazette.

I am a Dalhousie student, and I work part time at the Library on the weekends. For this I receive a paycheck every two weeks - at two fifty an hour for ten hours a week...works out to be approximately \$25.00. - not what I would call "highly paid". (Incidentally, before January 1st, 1976, the going rate was two twenty-five an hour.) I would suggest that E. Kranz provide specific monetary information in future articles, to prevent the reader from assuming E. Kranz's biases.

I further take issue with several other statements in the article. I agree that the library system at Dalhousie is far from perfect, but I feel that the author of the article has made several unfair and incorrect comments about the library system. It is a definite exaggeration to say "...the books are never on the shelves but always collecting dust in someone's room or in a professor's office..." Words such as 'never' or 'always' mean: without fail, or never an exception, and this is hardly fair when referring to library books in the Killam, if E. Kranz's statements were true, there would be no books on the shelves

(other than those never needed), and the rooms of the students, and offices of the professors would be literally literary landslides. It is erroneous of E. Kranz to suggest such a situation, as it goes against one's common sense notion of possibility.

I also feel that E. Kranz was again unfair when he criticised the procedure for recall at the Circulation Desk. It has always only been necessary for me to fill out one recall card per book - not two or three as suggested in the article. Although the Circulation Desk normally mails out the return requests, during the past postal strike, a special effort was made to contact overdue borrowers by telephone. I agree that it is unfortunate that books are not always readily available when needed, but I would suggest that the main reason for this is the irresponsibility of some students, not the library staff or administration.

It is also my belief that if students want / need the library to be open for longer or more convenient hours, then it is up to them to say so. There seems to be little trouble in expressing opinions about other university procedures which have found disfavor with students. i.e. the DAGS / Union controversy, Student Aid and the forthcoming maintenance strike. I would say that any dissatisfaction concerning the library hours and / or procedures can be, and should be dealt with in an open and straight forward manner. There is a suggestion box easily accessible for this purpose, and I have always found the Library administration friendly and more than willing to hear ideas and suggestions.

I therefore deplore E. Kranz's unorthodox and rather taunting method of approach to the problem. I believe that everyone is entitled to their own opinion and vehicle of expression, but I find E. Kranz's comment to be of a very personal and self-righteous nature - a style not suitable for a newspaper which should want to adhere to the principles of responsible journalism.

Yours sincerely,  
Cheryl Downton  
3rd Year Arts

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The Campus Network  
307 Davenport Road, Toronto, Ontario M5R 1K5  
(416) 925-6359