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Letters To Editor

MORE PLEASE!

'HI TIME' FOR HIGH SCHOOLS

Sir: I believe I represent the majority of wholesome opinion on the campus when I applaud your issue of January 9th as a step in the right direction. It is ludicrous to suggest that a campus newspaper should contain only material fit to print. Some of us turn to The Gazette for relaxation rather than culture, and now that the Sports Page has become a weekly exercise in apologetics, it is a pleasure to find some diverting smut.

Sir: In last week's issue of The Gazette, there appeared a letter to the editor in regard to the 'On Campus' program on CJCH. I would point out to Mr. Harris that 'Hi Time' for which Brad Dix and myself are responsible is directed to High School students and NOT to University students.

Sincerely, DAVE MAJOR.

CORRECT

AN IMPRESSION

More please!

Sincerely, WILLIAM H. JAMES

CLARIFY THE SITUATION

Sir: We, the executive of the Science Society, feel we should clarify the situation that has arisen with regard to Student Council elections. Apparently many of our students are not aware that the Constitution of the Council of the Students was revised last year, and that according to Article 7, Sec. 10, (page 14 of the handbook) nominations for representatives on the council are to be conducted on an individual basis, and not necessarily at a general meeting.

Sir: We would like to thank the Gazette for the article in the issue of January 30 concerning the Campus Film Society. We are sure that interest in our activities has been increased among the student body through your cooperation.

However, we would like to correct an impression the article might have made concerning a proposed panel discussion of film censorship. Professor Hafter is quoted as being "dead set against any form of censorship".

At the executive meeting attended by your reporter, it was suggested that we might have a discussion by a panel composed of a member of the board of censors, a student and a member of the faculty, preferably one "who is dead set against any form of censorship". Among the professors whom we considered asking to appear was Professor Hafter since he conducts a seminar on literary criticism in the English Department. However, Professor Hafter has not yet been approached by us to serve on such a panel, and therefore we do not know his opinion on the matter.

Barry Mills, president
Carla Laufer, vice-president

MASQUERADE

Sir: Early last week an article appeared in the Mail-Star advertising the Dalhousie Winter Carnival. There was a section inviting people to attend the West Indian Carnival and "masquerade with West Indians in native costume", other students appearing as tourists. This article was very misleading to the masses and the President of the Dal West Indian Society called the person responsible for the article and explained this to him.

Since then, a similar article has appeared in last week's Dalhousie Gazette and it is rather disgraceful and disgusting to see that students in this present age are content to limit their knowledge to some very ancient and romantic propaganda.

Since my arrival in Canada, I have been asked several times about my native grass skirt and, by a very few, how did I learn to speak the English language. Though I regret the fact that we have no native dress or costume (as you call it), I wish to point out that if we did have one, we as West Indians, would wear it as part of our identity.

Obviously someone misses the meaning of the word masquerade. No one disguises as himself or herself, anyway.

When I came to Nova Scotia, I did not expect to see a fisherman everywhere I turned, neither did I think that everyone's father was a lumber-jack. Yet on posters of Nova Scotia I do see such pictures.

Similarly, it is not fair to identify every West Indian with the limbo, with native costumes and garlands and perhaps wild shouts.

I wish to stress also that Carnival is an annual custom of only one or two West Indian islands. So why not accept it for what it is. If the trouble is that you do not know what it is, I am sure a West Indian would be glad to inform you.

There is a saying that "it is not what you say, but how you say it that counts." I wish to say that it is not what you write but how you write it that counts.

Sincerely, Norma Toby, Secretary-treasurer, Dalhousie West Indian Society.

EDITORIAL: THE MUSICAL MUST SUCCEED!

Over the past few years the Dalhousie Glee and Dramatic Society has established a considerable record for itself through the plays and musicals it has produced. Besides entertaining students, these performances have also enhanced the reputation of the university in the eyes of the general public.

This year, however, the society has failed to put on a play during the fall term and some concern has been voiced with regard to the musical. At the beginning of the year the DGDS executive announced there would be no play and that all its efforts would be directed towards the musical. The time usually taken up by the play would be used to choose and start rehearsals for the spring production.

However, the musical itself was only announced after Christmas, while the cast was not completed until about two weeks ago. Added to this is the fact that a theatre in which to present the musical was only found last week, necessitating an increase of nearly \$3,000 in the DGDS budget.

The society is optimistic that 'Guys and Dolls' will be a success. We say it had better be for the future of DGDS. Without the play and with no word yet on the Connolly Shield competition, the reputation of DGDS is staked on the musical. The mix up to date we place on the shoulders of the DGDS executive for not having chosen the musical in time and for poor organization. We would suggest in fact that major posts on the executive should be held by actors who will thus have a greater incentive to carry on the established tradition of the society.

However, we feel that DGDS is a worthwhile organization and we intend to give it every support with regard to the forthcoming musical. We would just warn the executive that the success of the musical may make or break the organization next year.

ELECTION COMMITTEE: NOTICE TO ALL DAL STUDENTS

While many Dal students are still in the dark about the forthcoming Student Council Elections, they should now realize Election Day is this Friday, February 8th. Since there are many student activities planned for the month of February, it was necessary for the present Council to call and arrange for the election during a short period of time. The importance of the elections and its significance to the students is indeed great. Therefore, all students should realize and understand some very significant facts about the manner in which the election is to be held, and some changes in procedure initiated this year, before they go to the polls to cast their vote.

NOMINATION BY PETITION

First of all, this year was the first year in the recent history of Dal that nominations could be made by petition. This system was felt to be a more satisfactory and democratic method of receiving nominations for the Council positions.

Although there has been a certain amount of confusion among the students, it appears to have been a relatively successful method.

Second, there will be a new voting method used in the forthcoming election. All students planning to vote must: 1. Have their NFCUS Card. 2. Have the name of their faculty or society written on their ballot. Any student without his NFCUS card will only be able to vote at a special voting booth in the Arts Annex (the Old Men's Residence). Also, if the student does not receive a ballot with his faculty name written in the right top hand corner, his vote will be considered invalid. It is the responsibility of those working at the polling station to ask to see the student's card and also to ask the name of his faculty. Thus the person working at the polls will place the name of the faculty in the space provided before giving him the ballot.

THIRD DIFFERENCE

The third difference to be found by the voter will be a new type of ballot. It is a uniform ballot on which all undergraduates will vote. It will be divided up into different sections:

- a. The officers that all students elect.
b. The officers that only male students elect.
c. The officers that only female students elect.

There will be concise, explicit directions for voters because this system is not a familiar one. If the voter follows directions, it is doubtful that he will make many mistakes. Any mistakes that are made, unless extremely serious, will not invalidate the vote cast.

Finally, students will be asked to give their opinion on the undergraduate examination system. An opinion poll is being conducted by the Council of the Students as part of its presentation on this matter to the Faculty and the Senate.