

## Complain, complain

I just hate people who complain.  
Now hold on...  
I just complained, didn't I?  
I just hate people who complain *and* don't do anything about their complaint.

That better?  
Who wants to listen to someone griping all the time? Yikes, all that negativity can really get on one's nerves.

Yes, I know that there is some therapeutic value in venting one's feelings, especially when one is frustrated. But after awhile, this venting just inbreeds and becomes more than a release of anger, but an expression of one's personality.

I'm not saying that people should not complain. Everyone has got something that s/he doesn't like, wouldn't want to do, would like to change or get rid of. It's inherent in our human nature to not be completely satisfied.

So what do you do about it?  
Simply complaining will provide some immediate and temporary relief, but if it's about something that's really gnawing at you — it's not going to go away by your complaining.

Just do something — anything — about it!  
Evaluate your complaint. Is it worth complaining about? Or are you just stressed and having a bad day?

Can you do anything about your complaint to change whatever it is you're complaining about?

Now this is where most people throw their arms up in the air, give up and say "No!"

Why not? We, too often, submit to the conclusion that no matter what we do, nothing is going to change and no one is going to notice.

The problem is we are always looking for immediate action, colossal differences and instant appreciation — so easily disappointed when none of that happens.

I've always thought that if there was something to complain, then there's something that can be done about it.

Do you have a complaint about the Dalhousie Student Union? Then why not go to a Council meeting some Sunday night? Hey, you might not change the course of student politics at one meeting, but at least it's a start.

Do you have gripes about Dalhousie University? Speak to someone about it — a professor, a fellow student, someone from Student Services or your Student Union.

What about the *Gazette*? Come on. Every year we get lots of complaints. So what to do about it? Write a letter. Tell us. And if you really want to see change, write a story, come to a staff meeting or learn how to do lay-out.

Whatever it is you're complaining about, deal with it in whatever way will make you happier. And don't be so picky.

And if all that doesn't work and you still have something to complain about, why not go skydiving in the nude above the North Pole? I don't know if that'll help, but at least that might help you get your mind off it.

Lilli Ju

DAL S.U.B.



## LETTERS

The Dalhousie *Gazette* welcomes letters to the editor. Letters should not exceed 300 words in length and should be typed and double-spaced. The deadline for letters is Monday 4 pm before publication. Letters may be e-mailed or submitted on Macintosh or IBM-compatible 3.5" disk.

## Opinions editor seminar?

To the editor,

I would like to express my opinion on the Opinions Editor's column.

I'd like to thank Mr. Tratnik for sharing his thoughts with us weekly. However, I do not feel he offers any sort of critical analysis of campus issues or offers any valuable debate.

You know what?! I have a great idea. Why not sponsor a "Think Like The Opinions Editor Seminar"? That way trees would be saved, Mr. Tratnik's four or five minutes a week would be saved, and we could all learn to think the way Mr. Tratnik thinks we should — his way.

Lisa Lachance

therefore less durable, squandering valuable pulp and paper resources and betraying flagrant disregard for fundamental principles of ecology, the decimation of the rain forests and global deforestation. They also violate basic standards of decency and public hygiene by naming a salad after the cat who lives across the street.

Finally, if you hold the menu (or that segment) so recklessly reproduced in the *Gazette* up to a mirror it reveals a message from Satan.

For goodness sake, H. Gibson! Relax; get a hobby; take a Stresstab! If the ad causes you such anguish, don't go to the restaurant. Make a little room for the rest of us who are waiting for tables.

Dennis Johnston

## Cut student fees

To the editor,

I'd like to commend Aaron Poirier on a fantastic point brought up in his opinion column "DSU lacks leadership on CFS issue." I will however have to strongly disagree. The DSU has displayed exemplary leadership in their decision to lead Dalhousie's politically aware and involved student body into a situation which they can decide for themselves how they should spend their money. The DSU definitely has the best interest of the students in mind. They have proven this by saving us six dollars next year, plus I assume they intend to repay us the four dollars we have already paid this year.

With this in mind I found it really interesting to have a look at the Student Union fee breakdown for 1994/95 that was supplied in the Dal Student Handbook. While I was looking at it I realized that there was potential for many other cuts to be made which would also save us some money.

I don't see anything around campus on the South African Trust Fund. I don't really want to support something which I can't see and doesn't seem to benefit me, so I think I would like my dollar back from that. Besides, if I'm going to donate money to an African country I think I could find one that I

would rather give it to.

I also don't see anything of the World University Service Council so I think I would like my 50 cents back from that. And besides, I'm sure that whatever it is, Hal and Rod will be able to create an alliance to take it's place.

Most people don't walk up the stairs in the SUB far enough to see anything of the SUNS or Nova Scotia PIRG so we could save \$6.60 by cutting those. (I see they have already begun saving us money that previously went into the SUNS.) I don't get a yearbook, so I wouldn't mind cutting the \$5 there. I like CKDU, but I imagine we should have a referendum over that because I don't think a lot of people are going to want to pay \$9 when they don't listen to it.

I'll still pay the \$10 for the SUB because I can see it and actually sit in it. Although I do have to say it's a tough choice because I don't use half of its services. I don't like the food in the cafeteria or the new Mall in the lobby.

I definitely want to save the \$15 given to the Capital Campaign. I just paid \$3,000 for my tuition and I don't think we should be hit up again for disguised fees.

I guess students should have an option of whether they want the health insurance plan because a lot of people are covered on their parents' insurance.

So let's see — that can save...

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## Relax!

To the editor,

I am writing to applaud the courageous stand taken by H. Gibson in the righteous condemnation of the advertisement for "My Other Brother Darrell's Restaurant" published in a recent *Gazette*. This ad, in my opinion, slashes at the very fabric of God-fearing moral society. You can bet I won't be leaving that issue of the *Gazette* anywhere my children are likely to pick it up.

For the information of your gentle readers I will confess that I have actually visited this den of iniquity. The blatant depravity of the place begins with the sign.

Benign enough at casual glance, but flanked by two structures of unmistakable phallic symbolism. Within the restaurant the management and staff openly promote anarchy and chaos by catering to such perverse and plundering of the public purse as editorial cartoonists and medical students.

The menus are unlaminated and

# the Gazette

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Founded in 1869 at Dalhousie College, *the Gazette* is Canada's oldest student newspaper. With a circulation of 10,000, *the Gazette* is published weekly through the Dalhousie Student Union by the Dalhousie Gazette Publishing Society, of which all Dalhousie University students are members. • *The Gazette* exercises full editorial autonomy and reserves the right to refuse or edit any material submitted. Editorial decisions are made by staff collectively. Individuals who contribute to three issues consecutively become voting staff members. • Deadline for commentary, letters to the editor, and announcements is 4:00 pm on Monday before publication (Thursday of each week). Commentary should not exceed 800 words. Letters should not exceed 500 words. No unsigned material will be accepted. • Adversity should not be granted upon request. Submissions may be left at the SUB Enquiry Desk c/o *the Gazette*. • Advertising copy deadline is noon on Monday before publication. • *The Gazette* offices are located on the third floor of the SUB, Room 312. • The views expressed in *the Gazette* are not necessarily those of the Dalhousie Student Union, the editors or the collective staff.

## IMPORTANT REMINDER:

All submissions (letters, stories, etc.) must include a contact name and phone number.