

# Crazy campus corner

So who's running for DSU prez? I've got my ear to the ground, but all I can hear so far is the vague, far-off rumble of the promised SUB renovations.

The Gazette is pleased to announce its intentions of backing the first candidate that offers us 500 extra square feet of office space on the third floor. Provided, of course, that she's a visible minority with socialist leanings and a feminist perspective. Not that that we have anyone in particular in mind....

Vicious rumour has it that former SUB manager Andrew "The Tax Man" Beckett is look-

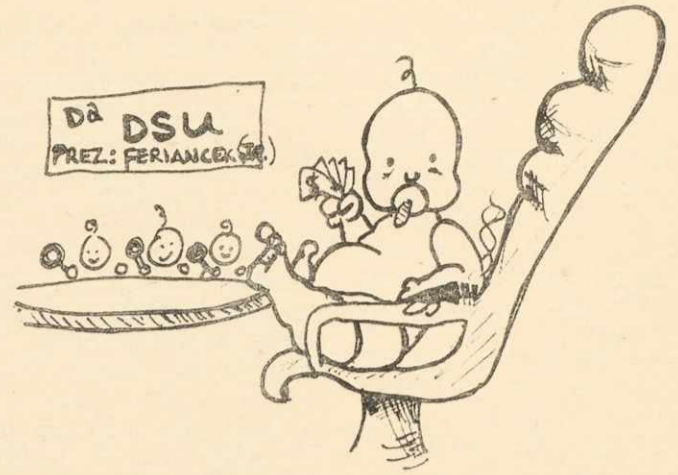
ing for a running mate. Another rumour has it that the Feriancek junior will be available for office right after he's done teething. Two prodigal sons in one year? Come on.

Then again, Council can kill two birds with one stone by offering the presidency to the winner of the "Rename the Grawood & Spit on the Honour of your Forefathers" contest. Oh, what the hell, I'll give it a whirl myself. What do you think of "Howie's Hideaway"? Or "Clarke's Cantina"? If that doesn't rub your suds, we might as well start looking for a presi-

dent with a more appropriate name ASAP.

On a brighter note, unidentified (and totally unreliable) sources report that the girls from Kara's Hair Scare were lobbying recently in the Grawood. They're apparently building a platform on very high heels and tight Spandex. Their candidacy may explain the proposed six-dollar increase in Union fees for next year. After all, when Dalhousie students aren't getting shafted, they're bound to get scalped instead.

— Erin Goodman



# l e t t e r s

## Wanted children and willing mothers

### To the Editors:

On the occasion of the Supreme Court's ruling that Canada's abortion law is unconstitutional, the jubilant Henry Morgentaler insulted his opponents (i.e. the anti-abortionists) by calling them "uncomprehending, ignorant, stupid people" and, as a justification of his pro-abortion stance, he said, "Every

child a wanted child, every mother a willing mother". (Morgentaler backers jubilant", *Calgary Herald*, P. A12, Jan. 29, 1988). As an anti-abortionist who does not appreciate being called names, and — more importantly — as a Canadian citizen who does not like to see his society duped by lies couched in sleazy slogans, I would like to take this opportunity to forward the following three points:

1) In the current abortion debate, the words "every child a wanted child" conjure up in the minds of

most people an attitude of compassion and caring. Mr. Morgentaler, however, uses these words to disguise the simple truth that instead of enhancing the wantedness of unwanted pre-natal children, abortion kills them. Consequently, instead of providing an environment of compassion and caring (things normally associated with the words "every child a wanted child"), Morgentaler provides facilities for the deliberate destruction of human beings.

2) Of course, every child *should* be a wanted child. However, aborting those children who are "unwanted" is a terrible displacement of the responsibility for their wantedness. The point is this: The responsibility for the wantedness of an innocent child does *not* rest with the child; rather, the responsibility of wanting an innocent child rests with *the adult*. (To better understand, read the next sentence carefully.)

Because pre-natal children have no control over their wantedness (this is self-evident); because every child *should* be a wanted child (this is even in accord with Henry Morgentaler's own position); and because *adults* are the ones who do the wanting (in the child-adult relationship, wantedness is a relational concept, and wantedness is the responsibility of the party who is able to do the wanting); because of the aforementioned, we can correctly conclude that *adults* (male and female) have the responsibility to provide an environment of compassion and caring for children and that adults should not make efforts to kill children for *their* (i.e. the adults') irresponsibility.

3) Finally, in view of the fact that most abortions do not arise out of the circumstances of rape (according to the U.S. Surgeon General, rape *almost never* results in pregnancy), and in view of the above discourse concerning responsibility, Mr. Morgentaler's slogan "every mother a willing mother" can only mean that every woman should exer-

cise her will (re: motherhood) *before* she becomes pregnant with child — not after.

In view of Mr. Morgentaler's comments, then, I am inclined to think that Canada's Supreme Court ruling on abortion marks not only the occasion of a government-sanctioned abortion of the innocents, but also the occasion of the corporate abortion of the Canadian intellect. Smarten up, Canada: Morgentaler's slogans apply just as well to the *post* natal abortion of *all* children. After all, "every child a wanted child, every mother a willing mother."

**Hank van der Breggen**  
Philosophy student  
University of Calgary

## Thanks, Robert

### To the Editors:

Sorry, everyone; here is just one more comment in regards to the article by Barry Moores in the Dal Dispatch, Dec. -87.

We want to congratulate Robert Matthews for his letter, "GLAD again", and express our support. In a concise and articulate letter, he has clarified some major issues often misconstrued by many people. Too often, the real experiences of oppressed groups, including gay men and lesbians, are trivialized when applied to hypothetical situations. Yes, Barry Moores, straight men may be assaulted by gay men — but focussing on this distorts the real threat of violence that children, women, gay men, and lesbians face each day.

Thanks, Robert, for the great letter.

**J. Allen**  
**Brenda Beagan**

## Citadel debate still under siege

### To the editors:

We are in danger of changing history by hiring females or blacks at the Halifax Citadel,

and oh, what a crime that would be! Yes, it is a good thing that the likes of Jeffrey Reed are out there to defend the naïve tourists from the evil ploys of unemployed female students (re: J. Reeds' letter, *Gazette*, Jan. 28th). Gosh, I never dreamed such treacherous types as Erin Goodman, whoever she is, could be at work among us. I mean, the way she wants to change history and all that, just like "Stalin and Hitler did". It just goes to show how far those women and blacks are willing to go.

But you know, Jeff, this Citadel is a funny place. Last fall, while running around in there among the soldiers dressed in skirts, I couldn't help but notice all those mod cars parked right ther beside those big ugly cannons. I didn't know those 18th-century guys had such fine taste in wheels. And all those electric lights and heaters? Well, I suppose it would get pretty cold fighting Napoleon's guys with only a skirt to wear. (They did fight, didn't they?) And heck, if you're going to get your knees dirty, why do it in the dark? And isn't it great that those British soldiers, so far away from home, had their very own tourist shop? They could get a nice I-defended-Halifax T-shirt for sis, or one of those little silver cannon necklaces for that really special girl.

No, it didn't take long for me to see your point. Those females and blacks really would rip the very authenticity of the place to the ground. And we wouldn't want to offend any of those wonderful tourists from south of the border, now, would we? Free trade deals have been ruined by lesser mistakes. Better to stick with something really important like "historical accuracy" than to give in to a few unemployed, silly women and blacks.

Good to know you're out there, Jeff, defending us from those right-wing fellows like "Hitler and Keegstra". There are a lot of those right-wing fellows out there, you know.

See you at the Citadel.

**James McDowell**

# WANTED: EDITOR(S)

Once again, *The Gazette* is looking for an editor, co-editors, or editorial board, for 1988-89 publishing year.

### Required:

- \* Ability to pass on writing skills, knowledge of copy editing, layout and design.
- \* Ability to work within the budget; to understand and promote the philosophy of the student press; to be responsible for the content and quality of the paper.
- \* Nominations will be open till Friday, March 11 at 5:00 p.m. All résumés should be given to Trent Allen at *The Gazette* offices, Room 312, third floor, SUB.

# CELEBRATE!

## International Women's Day with the Gazette



We invite you to contribute to our March 10th Women's Issue

Artwork, photos, fiction, poetry, opinion pieces, letters, etc.

Deadline: Monday, March 7, 1988