

**Comment**

# Council candidates feed votes

**special to the Gazette**

Howe Hall, the Dalhousie men's residence and home of Robert Sampson and Peter Mancini-presidential candidates, was treated to a dessert of strawberry shortcake Valentine's Day courtesy of Beaver Foods. "It was" the Gazette in an exclusive interview with a resident was told, "one of the best desserts ever served in the building."

Sampson and Mancini obviously thought the same—unmitigated delight for they endorsed the delicacy with their names.

Both Sampson and Mancini noted around campus for their verbal skills—the shortcake incident gave them the opportunity to express their respective oratory prowess. Rather convenient it seems when the student council election is but two days away.

"Direction is so important in these last few hours before the polls close", we were told. "It was a good thing that the two sweetest men on campus were in residence to show us where they stood on so many issues."

And direct they did. With the skill only possessed by a future law

student, Mancini passed out plate after plate of what can only be described as a masterpiece of modern gastronomic engineering.

Completing this sketch of humanitarianism one need only refer to the large, well colored, poster covering the wall behind the serving counter. The message was obvious:

"I think it said something to the effect that the treat was presented by the Sampson-Mancini team in conjunction with Beaver Foods." A student said. "I think the message was fairly clear: No one took a second glance at it—What Sampson and Mancini had to say was political. Patrons of the dining establishment knew what direction the presidential team wanted them to take."

We do not question the importance of the maneuver. Sampson and Mancini did not either.

Robert Sampson in an on-the-spot interview told the Gazette "to each his own. We treat the voters the way they like to be treated. What's wrong with that?"

Shades of Watergate? Hardly. Both Sampson and Mancini, on earlier occasions have stated—"It can't happen here."

"I am flabbergasted" an intellectual history student told the Gazette

"It reminds me of the Panama scandal in France in the early 1870's. Bankers were involved in countless schemes relating to the building of the canal. Parliament in conjunction with Paris financiers were responsible for the disillusionment of the French populace over the next decade. Indeed, some have said for the next three decades."

One is led to the obvious question; What will be the immediate repercussion of this shortcake affair?

If it were possible for every student on this campus to receive a gratis piece of shortcake then all would be null and void. These two reporters for instance, would be out of a job.

But it is not.

We must question the attitude of the Sampson and Mancini team: Are they acting democratically or are they feeding votes?

Have any students receiving this shortcake, questioned the repercussions of the action?

Or do they care?

Are we to remember this as but another moment in Dalhousie University's political history?

Is the Sampson and Mancini ticket just one isolated instance or

do they represent the feelings of the majority of students?

Political carelessness and student apathy only breed corruption.

Spurred on by two budding politicians we can only see the situation in the future becoming worse.

If Sampson and Mancini are elected will we see more of the same patronage?

Is this sort of nonsense that has turned Dalhousie students off politics? Perhaps though this is the overwhelming social tendency of the times?

We don't know.

Supposedly a university is the home of objective thinking, as such a thing exists. The scandal brings this all into question. "Democratic process", one student told the Gazette, "are being distorted by the overwhelming student apathy. No one gives a fuck."

Sampson and Mancini served the strawberry shortcake dessert. Some people were under the impression the candidates were paying for the dessert, but they weren't — it was included in the meal and the two politicians were just giving the students the food they had already paid for.

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timize homosexuals or homosexuals who forcefully promote homosexuality should be victimized in return. But people who live what they are should be left alone.

What bothers me most about your letter and perhaps the reason I replied to your letter was your aggressive attitude you expressed towards "gay, fags, fruits" as you called them. I think you and people like you should be held in contempt of human life and in any intelligent society you are and will be held responsible for overt criminal behaviour. I believe my society is intelligent and will not tolerate gross human abuse whether it be against homosexuals, race, religion, ethnic groups, females, juveniles, etc.

How can racism, housing, unemployment, or political prisoners, religious prisoners or parking, be more of an issue for heterosexuals. All people need a place to stay.

If you consider homosexuals nature's mistakes, I feel sorry for you.

If the CBC is the respectful Canadian Institution it claims to be, then let it act as such. Let it project through its actions an understanding of life with a mature intelligent acceptance of all Canadians, be they heterosexuals or homosexuals. It is no longer accepted to hide your crippled child out of shame in the closet so your friends and neighbours cannot see them. Bring them out, let life accept life for what it is and not what you would like it to be or should be. Not

to publicly accept Gay advertisement does not say much for the CBC as a Canadian Institution whose employee population is not a total harmonious heterosexual population it is attempting to project. Let's not be so stupid any longer, the price for stupidity and ignorance is too high. I want to emphasize I am not saying that the CBC should advocate or promote homosexuality but that it treat those people who "are" as human beings. If those who are heterosexuals are fearful that acceptance of reality as it is will make everybody want to become homosexuals (ie. male or female homosexuality) or become heterosexuals be assured that this world have been around in its present state for some time and the laws of nature are constant ie. constantly imperfect. Nature's first rule is to survive and I'm sure it is well aware of itself, but I do not think that nature sees the human race with its present population is in danger of becoming extinct because some of its' members are unable to propagate life. I think nature accepts these people as well as it accepts you and if anything, the danger of the human family becoming extinct is threatened by the failure of those of us who do not want "to live and let live." If you don't recognize somebody else's right to live, why should they recognize yours.

I fail to see your conclusion that the editors of the Dal Gazette are any less "good reporters" when they try to expose sexual abuse than when they expose racism, political prisoners, housing, unfair labour practices, female discrimination, etc.

I hope you live long enough to come to terms with life. Best of luck to you.

I remain,  
Ed LaPierre

## Capitalism OK

To the Gazette:

Bravo to Mr. "Halibut" for his poorly disguised support of that skeptical system socialism which seeks to compensate for human weakness rather than capitalize on human strength. Maybe if he can convince enough others of the virtues of socialism and destroy

capitalism we can all retire and go on welfare together. (Imagine being looked after for life just for giving up our freedom, individualism and self-dignity.) After all, capitalism forces people to earn a living by their own effort and rewards such disgraceful human qualities as imagination, initiative and hard work. Within the capitalist system men deal with each other as independent individuals on the premise that each man is an end to himself. The socialist on the other hand (professing to be concerned with the "common good") reduces the individual to a member of the common pack regarding the others as a means to his ends.

I hope that Mr. Halibut (whoever he, she or they are) is fully aware that there are those of us who are sincerely the defenders of capitalism and that our belief is founded not only on capitalism's practical virtues but more importantly on its philosophical righteousness.

Believe it, buddy.

Kimberly Donaldson

P.S.: Damnant quod non intelligunt.

## No line?

To the Gazette:

In past issues of the Gazette you have stated that nearly 10% of the population is gay. If this is true, what is the reason that the majority of straight people are not approached by a gay person at one time or another? I think you got your statistics wrong!

About equal rights for gays, to what extent do you wish to extend their rights? The CBC has been a target for your paper for some time because they have decided not to broadcast gay announcements; because they are considered controversial. As the CBC does not broadcast for Birthright for the same reason, are they discriminating against the unborn?

How far are you willing to go with equal rights? Would you allow gay couples to adopt children? Sure they could provide food, shelter, clothing affection etc. but what about attitudes. What kind of father figure? mother figure? would such a child have? Would a child growing up in a gay home be able to accept the fact that he or she was either a

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