

SEX AND VIOLENCE AT DAL

Ah, Yes folks it's cheap trick isn't it, and one of the oldest ones in the book too. Run off a catchy sensationalist and irrelevant headline add "Now that we have your attention" and quickly change the subject. What desperate condition has caused this highly respected and widely read journal to sink to these depths of sophomoric banality?

Well it's a common ailment and its been going around campus for years, that dreaded disease common to student organizations across the world -**APATHY**. To put it in plainer words, in a phrase that has flourished in the pages of this paper for the last 107 years. Gazette needs staff. Gazette you may note with haughty disdain "Always needs staff". So what else is new.

Exactly our point --- we can't tell you much of anything that's new without some help from a few of your out there in "I'm sorry I have a heavy work load" land. Now don't give up. If you've gotten this far you might as well bear with us (if things get much worse around here, I'll have to face up to reality and drop the editorial we).

Before we go on to explain the amazingly simple reasons why YOU should join in the production of the Dalhousie Gazette I must preface with some indication of our genuine need. This folks is honest to God a desperate plea. If something doesn't happen soon, the Gazette will be no more. Not only are we short staff in every department, we are operating (trying) without five members of the editorial board. There are vacancies in the positions of Campus Editor, Municipal Editor, Provincial Editor, Features Editor, and Layout Editor. We're running strong in Sports and Entertainment, as you might have noticed.

So why should you squander your Grawood time on the Dalhousie Gazette. The usual defence for inaction is the "it's not fit to line a kitty litter box anyway" routine. If you are of this opinion then you must be aware that you have the perfect opportunity to change the situation, come round to the Gazette office and participate. Sitting around the cafeteria criticizing never accomplished anything. If you want your paper to be better, get off your ass and work at it.

One point that rarely occurs to people is that working on the Gazette can be -- you guessed it -- fun. Anyone who does come round to do a bit of work is guaranteed a few laughs, some new friends, and even the odd party.

Another favorite excuse is the one about "I'm here to go to school, not to work". I'm sure anybody will agree that they're here to get an education and to learn and that goes a long way past chemistry labs and english tutorials. There is more to learning than sitting in a classroom or listening to a professor. Anyone who restricts their stay at Dalhousie to purely academic endeavors has definitely missed out some where along the line. You can learn a lot at the Gazette not only about newspapers, and not only about whats going on in the World and at Dal. You can learn about people, about relating to them and about being part of a community.

Most important, is the opportunity to gain something that is pretty hard to come by these days, and that's the opportunity to feel a little satisfaction. You can feel satisfaction of having presented something that you believe in, or the satisfaction of having helped others in defending or publicizing the areas in which they are involved. But most of all there is the feeling of satisfaction each week when the paper comes out of just having gotten it done.

All in all it's not such a bad place and if you drop into our offices on the third floor of the S.U.B. (right next to the Grawood) you may just find that you enjoy it. You have nothing to loose by giving it a try.

It's up to you.

Canada's Oldest College Newspaper

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, the university administration, the editor, or the staff. We reserve the right to edit or delete copy for space or legal reasons. Deadline date for letters to the GAZETTE and outside contributions is the Friday preceeding publications. No anonymous material will be accepted, but names may be withheld on request if there are extenuating circumstances. The Dalhousie GAZETTE is a founding member of Canadian University Press.

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