

letters

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ted such an act which can only make all fraternities look bad. Finally, the Dalhousie student newspaper (which I pay to support thru my fees) has once again shown itself to be of the same quality as "The National Enquirer". No one in my fraternity was questioned about this act; seeing our fraternity symbols on the graffiti, it was assumed we had done this. As a person who would like to perhaps join the journalistic profession some day, I feel very good that I have never wasted my time writing for this piece of biased, subjective trash which is an insult to all responsible journalistic publications. Either the Gazette should clean up its reporting and start acting like a real paper, or the students, many of whom disagree with paying for this garbage, should no longer be charged for it.

Collin E. Baird

Pandering and slandering

To the editor:

I felt very oppressed when I picked up the last issue of the Gazette (November 12), and read Anthony Roberts' article concerning the Christmas tree debacle. I don't have a problem with his opinion, that the DSU should not purchase Christmas decorations (whether I agree with him or not); however, I don't think it was necessary for him to insult Christians and Christianity in order to express that opinion. It seemed to me that his article was malicious in the way it spoke of Christianity; that was the overall impression I had of it. He did what many people do, concerning groups of individuals which they don't understand. He lumped all Christians in the world into one category, and assumed that we are all the same. "Christians must realize that they are not the only religious group that exists", he wrote. Well, most of us do. Maybe a few Christians don't. That doesn't give anyone the right to assume we are all that way. To do so would be an unfair generalization, which leads to prejudice.

Please, you don't end prejudice by fostering it against someone else. If people feel oppressed or neglected by Christian attitudes among council members, then they should certainly make that known. But they don't have to make generalizations about all Christians, and they don't need to slander us.

Kristin Janz

The agony of defrat

To the editors:

I was rather alarmed with the letter printed in the November 12 issue of your paper entitled "Wake Up, Get a Life" by Steve Mills. Once again, you (the Gazette) have published a fraternity-bashing article and, as usual, focused your attention on PHI KAPPA PI, a fraternity to which I belong.

Recently (Friday, November 6), some of our brothers and pledges painted, in water-soluble paint, "Party at FKP" on the side of a rival fraternity. This is a harmless advertising gimmick that we have employed in the past. Conveniently for said rivals, a letter appears in the Gazette the following week accusing us of defacing a "public

wading pool" where mostly children and their parents would be able to see what was written. Sounds a little fishy to me, would you not agree? (Besides, we're all Led Zeppelin fans)

PHI KAPPA PI has established relationships with a long list of local charities past and present. For example

1) Every year, PHI KAP canvasses for the Canadian Cancer Society.

2) Every Hallowe'en, for the past 27 years, ALPHAGAMMA DELTA and PHI KAP have held a party for Metro's Challenged Children in conjunction with the Nova Scotia Department of Community Services. (This event was recently covered by the Saint Mary's Journal)

3) PHI KAP has recently established a relationship with the Metro United Way. We loaded and unloaded a tractor trailer with merchandise for their annual garage sale that raised over \$32,000.

4) This past summer, PHIKAP held a car wash at the Petro Canada on Quinpool Road. The proceeds went to Bryony House.

5) Every Remembrance Day PHI KAPPA has participated in the Wreath Laying Ceremonies held in downtown Halifax.

6) Every February, we canvas for the Nova Scotia Heart and Lung Society.

Well, I think I've made my point. As far as Steve Mills is concerned, I have shown that we, as PHI KAPs, possess a very creative way of expressing ourselves. Also, contrary to Steve's views on graffiti, I do not condone defacing public property for any reason, political or otherwise.

Steve, I think you should wake up and get a life. What have you done for your community lately?

Finally, I have a few parting suggestions for the staff of the Gazette.

1) Start putting an effort into rediscovering and reuniting the student body of this university as a whole and not constantly catering to special interest groups.

2) Why not have a column where students can comment on issues of interest to them, aside from usual political and bureaucratic bullshit.

3) Stop using the Gazette as a vehicle for expressing your relentless anger against society.

4) Fire Steve Mills.

Respectfully submitted,
Kevin Price
Phi Kappa Pi Fraternity



Read before you write


Dear Phi Kappa Pi:

My, aren't we defensive. Perhaps you should take a moment and re-read the letter I submitted last week. The opening sentence states that the letter is directed at "those members" of your fraternity who I assumed had committed the act. I did not say that Phi Kap as an organization had done this. I did not say that Phi Kap condoned or even knew about this. The point was that an individual or perhaps two had done something that was destructive and that made your fraternity look bad. Your awareness of who did this, whether it was a fraternity brother or anyone else, is irrelevant as whoever did it will probably never speak up.

Now, Colin, if you think that letters to the editor have anything to do with a paper's objective viewpoint, you have much to learn about the journalistic profession. Furthermore, if you so strongly disagree with the content of the Gazette maybe you should come in and write something that better represents your unbiased and objective stance. If you make no effort to have your self or group represented, then you have no right to complain if no one else does either.

Finally, Kevin, I too do not agree with defacing property, public or private, here in our quiet, comfy and reasonably sedate corner of the world. But I'll bet there were some important things scrawled on the Berlin wall prior to its demise. And by the way, you can't fire a volunteer.

Steve Mills



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