

you were saying

Mussolini is no joke

To the Editor:

"War alone brings up to its highest tension all human energy and puts the stamp of nobility upon the peoples who have the courage to meet it" (Benito Mussolini in his essay on fascism in *The Encyclopedia Italiana*). And further from the same article: "Fascism denies that the majority, by the simplest fact that it is a majority, can direct human society, it denies that numbers alone can govern by means of a periodical consultation, and it affirms that immutable, beneficial, and fruitful inequality of mankind."

Q 104 makes Mussolini the subject of a joke, offering as a third prize in their "Ode to a Moose" song contest "\$100.00 cash, merchandise awards, 1 copy of the memoirs of Benito Mussolini." Advertisement of this type is disgusting and dangerous. I am sorry to see that the Gazette is not more discriminant in its advertisement policy. Last fall Dalhousie students marched to protest the Cruise and to promote world peace. Today, their newspaper supports a contest in which the memoirs of a fascist who was Hitler's staunch ally in Europe are offered as a prize.

If for policy reasons the Gazette staff does not want to censor advertisements and if for financial reasons it does not want to lose Q 104 as a customer I suggest a commentary on this ad would have been in place.

Sincerely,
Dieter Hoehne

Ed Note: We agree that part of the ad is in poor taste.

Not Fair

To the Editor:

Perhaps it was the impressive full-color front page of your March 1 issue that tinted the first few pages of the Gazette, at least those sections covering the DSU election candidates.

I find "Fear and Loathing" etc. is more of an editorial comment than simply a "call-out" to the subject of each page. And your one-half page dedication to a glaring chart of so-called voter attitudes is rather misplaced considering your modest sample of 40 people. Trusting that you have some familiarity with readers' habits, did you consider the fact that many would be bombarded by the chart, and not bother to read the smaller print following that justifies the sample results?

Despite your uniform questioning of each candidate, your attempt at balance was distorted by the accompanying cartoons. While one candidate is simply a smiling caricature, another wears a fang and a politician is stabbing his back. In fairness to all candidates, photographs are preferable, to represent the reality and eliminate the chance for the artist's view of the candidate to become that of the voter.

Certainly, it is the role of the campus press to state opinions, but these are better expressed on the editorial page, not the news pages. In this case, it is clear that you have used the powerful instruments at your disposal to slant what would have been purely objective coverage.

Beverly A. Jobe
Co-editor, *The Picaro*
Mount Saint Vincent University

Envy; Why?

To the Editor:

With reference to your coverage of the protest at Debut, can any of your readership enlighten me as to why "War is menstrual envy?"

P. F. Dawson

Turn it down!

To the Editor:

I am writing in reply to your letter of March 8 by John MacNeil.

I would like to thank Mr. MacNeil for his interest in our programming and assure him that we have done everything within our powers to provide him and other Dalhousie Students with an audible product via our current broadcasting mode.

As John suggested, CKDU should be loud and progressive in order to represent the spirit and voice of Dalhousie. We have every intention of doing so, but the volume level within the building is outside of our supervision. I direct all listeners disturbed by the lack of adequate volume to send your complaints to the Student Union Building Operations Committee, c/o Student Council Offices.

I would like to point out that the extra \$6.50 in Student Union fees does not fund the current broadcasting of CKDU over the Student Union Building P.A. system. This money will be available to us beginning May 1 and will be used to fund the operation of CKDU-FM and its broadcasting to the entire Metro area.

Hang in there John. Next year when CKDU is available on 93.1 FM, you can turn us up as loud as your neighbours will tolerate.

Yours sincerely,
Keith Tufts
Station Manager, CKDU

Just fed up

To the Editor:

We would like to complain about the disgusting condition of the Dunn Parking lot. We are paying \$67.00 to be jostled by crater-like potholes, to wade through mud, or to be unable to find a parking space because of the giant swimming pool that covers a good 25% of the lot when it rains. Why pay maintenance men to stand there all day pumping out the flooded lot when a few loads of gravel or a decent drainage system would take care of the problem once and for all? Perhaps most frustrating are the idiots who take up 1½ parking spaces. We would like the lot to be policed so that these people could be warned of what nuisances they are. The Dunn parking lot situation is disgraceful and we feel the problems should not be ignored.

Sincerely,
Nancy Scott
Linda Demings
and forty-eight others

Cartoon bad taste?

To the Editor:

In response to the latest of your CKDU-directed cartoons ("And now ... a whole CKDU weekend of the best of the Butthole Serfers!!" March 8 edition, page 5), I feel it necessary to correct any misrepresentation of CKDU's programming as a result of the cartoon.

The programming format at CKDU is of a type unheard in Halifax, and it is this format which will continue into FM broadcast in the fall. A great many musical categories are presented by programmers with extensive knowledge in their preferred music fields. Due to the diversity offered, and in accordance with our policy, CKDU would never present an entire weekend of any artist. Our programming is of a "specialty show" format, which allows the listener, after referring to the CKDU Program Guide, to choose the show(s) most appealing to his/her personal taste in music.

Butthole Serfers is an alternative band and, we feel, warrants airplay. An entire weekend of this band would be as repulsive to us as it would be to you. Rest assured, dear listeners, for we would never play a whole weekend of Culture Club either.

Eric Taylor
Program Director, CKDU

commentary

by Charles Spurr

In reference to Mr. Dawson's letter of February 16 in which he defends Canadian military and economic involvement in the Caribbean by claiming that there isn't a "shred of evidence":

As long ago as 1932 Canadian naval units landed as part of the U.S. intervention in El Salvador, followed by the slaughter of thousands by the Martinez dictatorship.

On February 27, 1982 Canadian Press reported that the Canadian naval flotilla was steaming "to U.S.-led war game off Cuba and Florida and the neighboring Gulf of Mexico" and was code-named CANUA—MOREASTOP '82—Canadian-U.S. Maritime East Operations. It was followed by a NATO exercise involving almost thirty ships. The CP report said

that a U.S. naval official said "that Canada-U.S. exercise starting this weekend is to 'test the operation of joint operating agreements' of 1947 dictated by the U.S. with Canada." This was denied at that time by the Department of National Defense, Mr. Dawson's employer.

Canada has sent warships to this zone annually since 1965, just prior to the invasion of this Dominican Republic, with the exception of 1975 when they were employed in a "show of force" on the George's Bank, culminating in the arrests of scores of Canadian fishermen for allegedly violating ICNAF fishing quotas.

It was not the Halifax Committee but Maritime Command which described Carribbops '84 as a "southern wargame." Canada's participation in this is further escalation of imperialist war

preparations which are the prelude to aggression as was proved, for example, by the invasion of Grenada.

The superpowers do not accept that anyone should live free from the domination of imperialism, since this is what the Soviet Union is also doing in Eastern Europe and Afghanistan. Canada's participation in these exercises gives them the appearance of "inter-American" and "multinational manoeuvres for peace and security."

The "peace mission" of Canadian warships exposes the deceitful nature of Trudeau's "peace initiative."

T——, head of the Centre for Conflict Studies at U——, is not some neutral academic but a trained imperialist agent. In 1973 he was on the directing staff of the Imperial Command and General Staff College in Tehran,

Iran. Before that, at British Military Headquarters, he was on the staff of General Sir Harry Tuzo, general officer in command, Northern Ireland and "charged with countering enemy propaganda." The barbarous techniques used by the British on political prisoners included "white sound"—a form of torture also used in Chile—which was developed in Canadian universities. In personnel, aims and activity the CCS is comparable with and modelled on the well-documented CIA Institute for the Study of Conflict in London, England with which it has a working agreement.

Dawson has no argument so he concocts hyperboles and then attacks them in his own head while blaming others for his fantastic and "over-heated" and "warped" imagination. And so it is with all anti-communists.

