

Blah

Some weeks the pearls of wisdom that fall onto this page come easily and rapidly - the typewriter can barely keep up with the flow of language. This is not one of those times but rather than blame the loss of words on a mind dried up by term papers, exams, book reports, etc. we'll use that old scapegoat - the weather. Actually, considering the normal climate of Halifax it hasn't been as bad as it could be but then again it could be better. If Toronto changes its name to Miami and the weather turns warm perhaps we could change Halifax to Ft. Lauderdale and hope that Mother Nature gets the hint. Well now that you're all sufficiently bored with this drivel we'll move on to various topics that do irritate us even in the middle of a bad case of November blahs.

We haven't taken any pot shots lately at the Chronically Terrible and that's always a nice safe topic! A glance at the front page of one particular issue has lead us to believe that the illustrious example of Halifax (in truth Nova Scotia) journalism has a staff of possibly six reactionaries and no journalists. Their news copy all seems to come off a wire service. We base this assumption on the issue for December 3 when out of eight front page stories only three originated from the Terrible's staff. Come on now - even the Gazette does better than this. We normally run two front page stories and neither is wire service "filler" (not that our copy is any shining example of brilliance mind you, but at least it's our own!). This is obviously not the time to sling mud at their editorials for tending towards gross irrelevance - we'll save that for a future date when we needn't blush about our own!

Though sex, violence and apathy are usually good for a few strong words we can't seem to get too fired up about them lately either. Actually the Gazette seems to have succumbed to a state of apathy itself so we're not exactly about to point any accusing fingers at the student body. Sex, well sex is still around and so is sexism. Now violence is something that we might be able to bite into a little bit. It is beyond our comprehension why there are so many fights at the weekend SUB functions though perhaps the problem lies not at Dal but with the whole structure of society. It seems that every Monday morning there are fresh tales of blood and gore arising out of some drunken bash on Friday or Saturday night. Now the occasional duel over some fair maiden's hand we might be able to understand - but the wild brawls that occur regularly at SUB functions are a bit much. This is supposed to be a University where civilized folk can pursue academic excellence - at least that was the rumour we heard before we got here. The real situation appears to be that a large number of post-adolescents (perennial adolescents, maybe?) have chosen to spend three or four years of their lives and thousands of the taxpayers dollars drinking to excess as a preliminary to bashing in someone's head. Not what one would, by any stretch of the imagination, call a healthy way of life!

Speaking of SUB social functions we have a few axes to grind on their quality and quantity. The powers that be in the Students' Union appear to be suffering from the illusion that all students at Dal like to go to the SUB on the weekend and 1) get totally drunk, 2) get sick all over the lobby or some other equally appropriate place and 3) have their ears blown off by the volume of whatever rock band is playing. Now it may come as a surprise to some but not all Dal students enjoy this kind of thing. Unfortunately no one has ever bothered to ask them what they do want and then attempt to supply the alternative. "Caribanza" was a huge success with a large number of students who would not normally lower themselves to the usual weekend activities. This should tell the entertainment organizers something but so far as we've seen they haven't learned anything.

Anyone who has bothered to read this far must be almost asleep by now so rather than give you nightmares we'll stop here. Hopefully the November blahs will have left the Gazette office in time for our next issue - after all it is December and the season of good cheer is almost upon us. Besides the weather may improve before it gets worse!

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