

'No' campaign missed

To the Editor:

I am writing to criticize the lack of objectivity or meaningful discussion proceeding from the referendum on whether CKDU should go FM. First, let me stress that I am in favour of CKDU going FM and approve in principle (as I am in my final year at Dal) of the proposal to increase Student Union fees in the future so as to accomplish this goal.

During the time immediately preceding the last referendum (1981) a strong "NO" group was organized. This enabled both sides of the issue to be presented and on which to make his decision. Although I was disappointed that the majority of those students who took the time to vote held a contrary opinion to my own, I respected the decision as a conscious statement of agreement with one side or the other.

This year there was no group advocating a "NO" vote.

The Dalhousie Student Union is bound by the results of a referendum. It is the D.S.U. that provides the funding to allow projects such as CKDU-FM to become a reality. If the D.S.U. are, in fact "putting the question to the people" in the form of a referendum, it seems to me that they should do everything in their power to make sure that both sides of the question are given representation. I would even extend this to the point where some small honorarium is offered to an individual willing to coordinate the dissemination of information from the opposite point of view if no interest group is forthcoming.

Some would argue that the use of a referendum is an abdication of responsibility in a representative democracy. While I am not prepared to go that far, it does seem that an elected body that intends to hold a referendum that will be binding on it has some sort of duty to ensure that the electorate receives information on both sides of the issue.

I am happy for those involved with CKDU that the station has finally realized the mandate that it has been seeking for so long. It is, however, always easiest to win a race when you are the only one running.

Richard Payne

Dear Commie-rad

To the editors of the Gazette,

I could hardly believe my eyes when I picked up a copy of the Gazette this week. I looked inside the paper and couldn't find any articles denouncing Imperialism or the Canadian and American governments. What happened? Did your communist newspaper boy go on a vacation to his Motherland?

For once you (the editors) have produced a newspaper almost entirely devoted to the place which is responsible for the Gazette's existence: Dalhousie University!

You finally printed some articles which the people you're supposed to represent might be interested in reading. (In case you didn't know, the "people" you should represent are the student body, not the Communist Party of Canada!)

Congratulations are in order, I think; or is the Gazette going to turn red again as soon as it has the students' attention back? I sincerely hope that this does not happen, and if it's letters you need to know what students other than the communist ones are thinking, I'll be happy to send lots of them, all denouncing people who sell communist propaganda in newspaper form in front of the S.U.B.

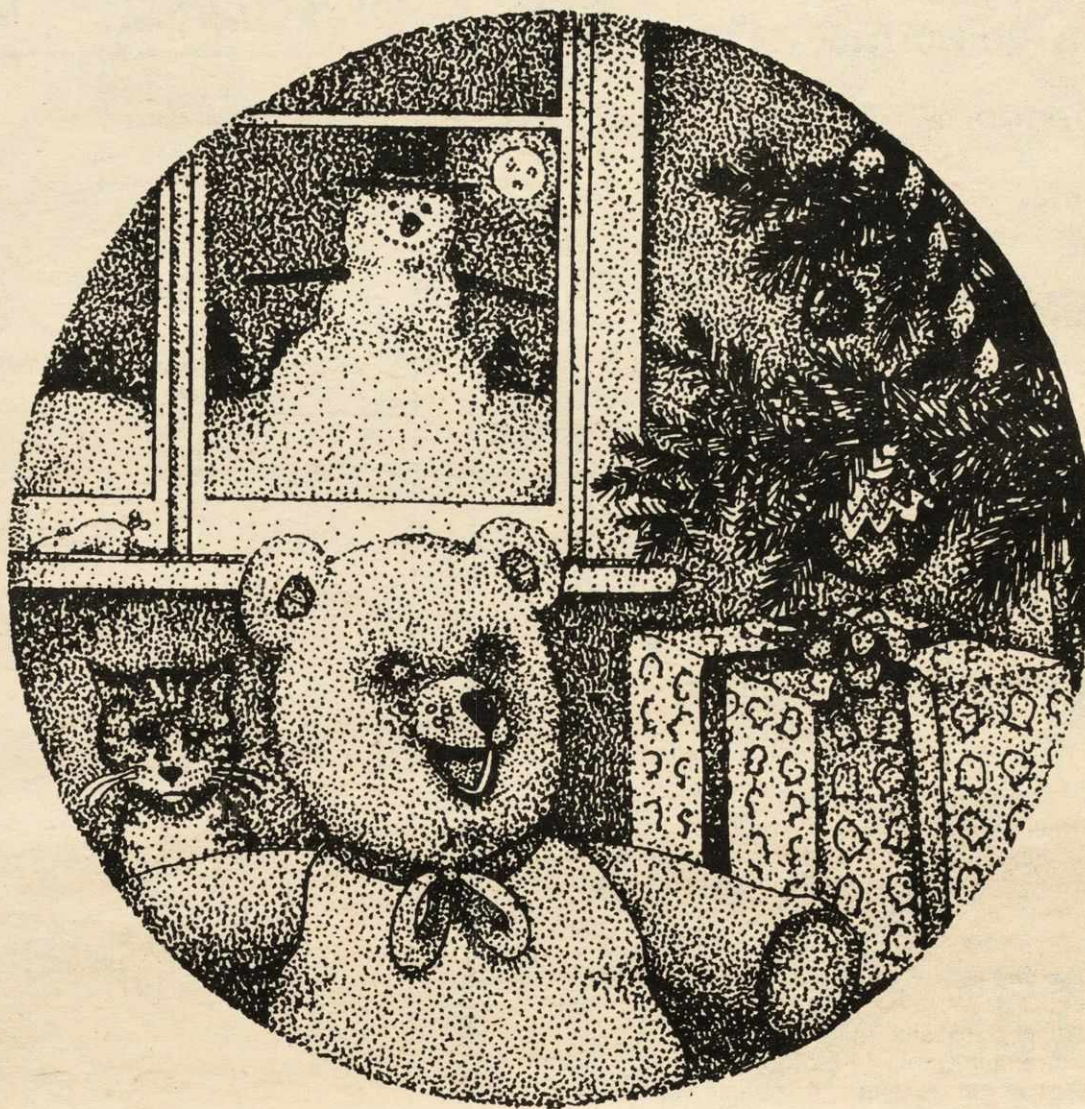
The only thing is, I can't help wondering if my letters might be more readily printed if I started them with: "Dear Commie-rad..."

Richard Derible

Senate coverage lacking

To the Editor:

I am writing to express my concern and disappointment at the lack of coverage given to the Senate By-Election last week. While I will grant you that the CKDU referendum was an important issue, it does nothing to lessen the apathy at Dalhousie when the newspaper will not cover issues such as the By-Election.



Dalhousie students are fortunate to have representation on the University Senate and I am very hopeful that your paper had chosen to do an article on the By-Election in this issue.

In order to insure that your coverage of the General Elections, to be held in the spring, is more extensive I would like to discuss the possibility of the Gazette assigning a reporter to begin covering the process in January and following it through until the end of the election.

Thank you for your co-operation in this matter. I am,

Sincerely yours,
Michael Tilley
Chief Returning Officer

Stop the communists

To the Editor:

The frequent criticisms of the present international and domestic political situation by Charles Spurr would be of infinitely more value to serious students of political science if:

- they were literate, and
- they were true

Peter F. Dawson
3rd Year Hons.
Political Science

Is John Smith your real name?

To the Editor:

Alarmed about the impending peril of thermonuclear war? Perhaps you watched "The Day After" and feel compelled to take your outrage to the streets. Here's a primer for all you neophyte, anti-war activists.

- If your protest is limited to Halifax and area, be certain to register with the staff at the Dalhousie Gazette. They can provide you with the latest info on how to organize a "spontaneous demonstration". If the turnout is a bit thinner than you had hoped for, they'll dispatch a contingent of "advocacy reporters" to help pump up the numbers. You might also consider taking on some free-lance help. There are quite a few "Anti-Sealing" or "Ban Ontario Wine Imports" lobbyists between protests right now. Word is out on the streets that the services of several John Bircher's can be rented quite cheaply.
- If you plan to march on the American embassy in a major city like Toronto, a must stop is the Soviet Consulate where hot tea and vodka are dispensed, along with comradely advice and the warmest encouragement. Free road maps to assembly points are also provided.
- All protesters should be well-versed in the proper art of "dying"—lying inert on the ground like beached starfish. You should remain limp when hauled off by the authorities, offering no assistance, and making them bear your full weight. You should also try to ignore (as best you can) any dog that sniffs at your immobile body—unless it's hind leg begins to twitch suspiciously.
- Nuclear Free Zones should never be declared without the prior approval of the Inner Presidium of the Supreme Soviet. Otherwise your declaration might be perceived as lacking a certain element of credibility.
- If possible contact Alice Cooper's make-up artist. The more garish the appearance, the greater the probability of making an impression on influential policy-maker's in Government. Leftover costumes from last Halloween will do in a pinch—but don't bring a "Pink Rabbit Suit".

For more information on how to organize a successful "Peace Rally", contact the "Ministry for Soviet-Canadian Relations", 1917 Dzerzinsky Street, Moscow, USSR.

John Smith
Resident of King's College

Letters to the Editor should be typed and handed in to the Editor prior to Monday noon. All letters must bear the author's full name and telephone number. The Gazette reserves the right to refuse any submission which it considers racist, sexist, or libellous in nature. All letters are subject to editing for length.