

Watch this space next year for cool commentaries and exciting editorials

WANTED



ROD MACLEOD

Guilty of:

- a) not representing students on the Board of Governors
- b) hardly being in his office the past six months
- c) using DSU resources to create his own national student organization
- d) using his position for personal gain
- e) all of the above

H-J et al



LETTERS

The Dalhousie *Gazette* welcomes letters to the editor. Letters should not exceed 300 words in length and should be typed and double-spaced. The deadline for letters is Monday 4 pm before publication. Letters may be e-mailed or submitted on Macintosh or IBM-compatible 3.5" disk.

the Gazette

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To the editor,

Editorial letters and submissions have always been a significant part of the *Gazette*. Letters are often interesting and informative when the facts are straight. It gives everyone on campus a chance to voice their opinions, their concerns and their thoughts on just about any topic.

This freedom is a wonderful and vibrant part of this paper and of any paper in general. Such a freedom should be and must be a right in any democratic country.

However, even this freedom must be limited in order to protect the integrity and character of others which may be affected by someone else's comments.

Having experienced this problem personally, I can speak from the expe-

rience of how misinformation can hurt one's reputation. Often these misunderstandings are innocent and unintended, but nonetheless, the opinions of one often start rumours and suspicion against others.

One problem with opinion pieces is that contributors can air their opinions, but maintain their anonymity. By withholding one's name, letters and opinions are subjected to suspicion and speculation which often result in false rumours directed at innocent parties.

If there is one limit that should be placed on the freedom of speech, it should be limiting the right of submitting opinions, concerns and thoughts if the condition of having one's name withheld upon request is applied to a contribution.

If there is a bona fide reason for withholding one's name, then perhaps such an action could be justified. Otherwise, withholding one's name is a cowardly act which often hurts the reputation of another.

Sean Rooney

Science Society no farce

To the editor,

It seems that Sally Bird and I made the mistake of thinking that the Dalhousie community could take a joke. For those not tipped off by the fact that our article about the Dalhousie Science Society (DSS) was in the farce section of the *Gazette* two weeks ago, the letter was not meant to be taken seriously.

All allegations we made against Jason Morrison and the DSS Executive were either taken out of context, blown way out of proportion or outright false.

Those of you who were unable to see through our subtle web of deceit should rest assured that this year's executive did a commendable job.

James Worrall

Founded in 1869 at Dalhousie College, the *Gazette* is Canada's oldest student newspaper. With a circulation of 10,000, the *Gazette* is published weekly through the Dalhousie Student Union by the Dalhousie Gazette Publishing Society, of which all Dalhousie University students are members. • The *Gazette* exercises full editorial autonomy and reserves the right to refuse or edit any material submitted. Editorial decisions are made by staff collectively. Individuals who contribute to three issues consecutively become voting staff members. • Deadline for commentary, letters to the editor, and announcements is 4:00 pm on Monday before publication (Thursday of each week). Commentary should not exceed 800 words. Letters should not exceed 500 words. No unsigned material will be accepted, but anonymity may be granted upon request. Submissions may be left at the SUB Enquiry Desk c/o the *Gazette*. • Advertising copy deadline is noon on Monday before publication. • The *Gazette* offices are located on the third floor of the SUB, Room 312. • The views expressed in the *Gazette* are not necessarily those of the editors or the collective staff.

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