

The lunch bucket

Three weeks left. And I'm still up to my hair in letters. It appears now that at least some of them will not be answered, at least in this column, this year.

Dear Box,

This cafeteria is very nice, but it would be much nicer if there was some music rather than the clatter of dishes.

Anon.

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I would tend to agree, but most patrons seem to prefer the clatter of dishes to Dal Radio (...oops...) CKDU.

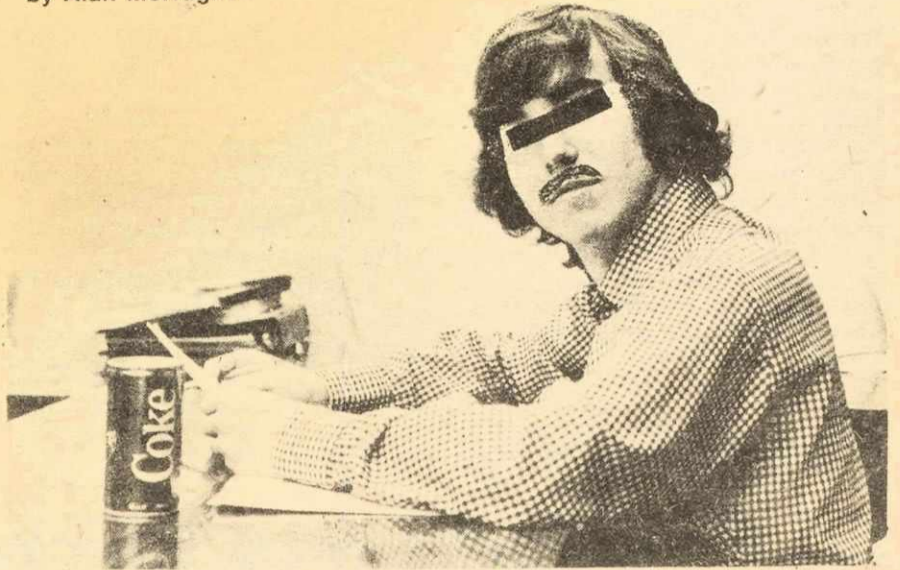
Dear Box,

It's obviously time to clear up the misconceptions under which you are labouring regarding coffee and coffee urns in the cafeteria. Firstly, the building opened in Nov. 1968. A quick calculation will show you that this means that the SUB (and necessarily, the coffee urns) is seven years old and three months. Not nine years. Secondly, the fact that the coffee urns are seven years old has little to do with the quality of the coffee. I have been drinking the coffee here for over six and one half years and I can assure you, it has never been good. The fact that the urns are old (actually what Pat means is that they are dirty; that the crud can no longer be removed effectively) may add a certain amount of bitterness and acidity; however the sad truth is that you cannot make coffee in ten or fifteen gallon lots and expect it to taste good. So much for economic expediency.

Fearless

Surprisingly, I have to agree with you. I can remember my first cup of coffee here was in January 1963. (That was 13 years ago, for those of you who are trying to figure it out.) At that time, the cafeteria was in the Arts Annex, and it tasted just as bad. At least it's consistent. But

by Alan McHughen



there is really no alternative. A large number of people want coffee starting early in the morning and that continues through the day. The only way to make it is in the big urns. However, there is a small machine that only makes a few cups at a time, and it is located in the hot entree section. I rarely drink coffee (I'm not into methylxanthines) so why don't you try it and let me know how it is. But don't be too surprised if it isn't too shit hot (figuratively) either. Just out of interest, if the coffee is that bad, (and it is), why have you been drinking it for six years?

Dear Box,

My problem is a serious one so please treat it with respect. I am a soup lover and am up against the problem of finding a soup spoon in this cafeteria. On the rare occasion that a soup spoon is available, it is most likely dirty. I know it is impossible to expect a sudden improvement in dish washing facilities all for the lowly soup spoon, but perhaps the cafeteria could provide plastic soup spoons. It's very annoying having to eat your soup everyday from a teaspoon; I only have a one hour lunch break. Thanks.

Soupy

Whenever the cafeteria runs out of any minor thing like utensils, condiments or food, simply ask the cashier or other employee. They will instruct Peter or somebody else to go and get the missing commodity. If this doesn't work, or if you get a hassle, dump your soup over the cash register. The subsequent reaction is well worth the 35 cents.

Dear Box,

So on Friday I should eat before 6:00 p.m. Ridiculous and frustrating.

Anon.

Yes and yes. If you want to eat at the cafeteria, that is.

Dear Lunch Can,

This letter is a complaint. The cafeteria sells cigarettes, but not Colts. As you know, Colts and Colts Mild are becoming increasingly popular for the studious, coffee drinking, cafeteria going elite. They are very effective in calming anxieties, they taste much better than cigarettes, they are cheaper because one smokes very few and indeed, one can smoke one Colt in stages up to three or four lights. Also, the tips are very tasty and chewable, being rum flavoured and

wine dipped. The alcoholic content is questionable. Also, I would like to recommend the Mild Colts over the regular as they are much easier on the throat and lungs. Thank you.

Anon.

This answer is a complaint. Number one, I am a Biology student, and, as such, I am no longer permitted to smoke in any class or teaching lab of Biology. Number two, I am not into tobacco. Number three, the cafeteria is coming under increasing pressure to establish smoking/non-smoking areas, if not to prohibit smoking altogether, the way Biology did. Incidentally, I doubt if it is very effective at calming anxieties; Nicotine is one of the most powerful stimulants known to mankind.

Dear Box,

Eat my shorts. I'm sure I'm eating your's.

Beads et. al.

I was wondering who took them.

Dear Box,

I realize that the guzzling gourmet has nothing to do with the Lunch Bucket, but since you're both in the same league, this letter is addressed to the G.G. in care of the Box:

Dear Guzzling Gourmet,

In your recipe of Feb. 19, you call for "1 pile of old Gazette back issues (approx. 7 lbs. worth)"

a) Who has 7 lbs. worth of the Dal Gazette lying around?;

b) Who keeps back issues of the Gazette? Unfortunately, this recipe seems to be merely a folly, a figment of your fermented brain. Try again.

Alke

For a number of reasons, I'm going to answer this letter before I give it to G.G. First, to answer your questions:

a) Allan Zdunich,

b) Allan Zdunich.

Now, the primary reason I've decided to answer this letter is to set things straight, just for the record. The G.G. and I are NOT in the same league. I do not have to bribe my readers with alcohol, I do not have to subliminally lull my readers (eg. "...oh, dear readers...") and I do not do this for my own enjoyment. I do, however, have the stupidity (?) ... audacity (?) to sign my own name to this column. Just so as you will not get the wrong idea concerning our relationship, though, I will stick up for him and assure you that it would be quite impossible for him to have a fermented brain.

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