

WORDS FROM THE WISE ...



Objection to way Council meeting ended

To the GAZETTE:

By their actions on Thursday night, the Student Council has effectively passed on to the next Council a very touchy question; that being, the editorship of the GAZETTE.

It will be up to the new Council to determine who will run the newspaper. Whatever Council's reasons for choosing Ken MacDougall editor over Marg Bezanson, they implied to the people on the previous GAZETTE staff that they were incapable of putting out a good

newspaper. Council said that they, a group of politicians, knew more about running a newspaper than the people working on one.

Given these circumstances, it was impossible for the staff to work with MacDougall. They had no other choice but to resign en masse. For this, they deserve the respect of the entire student body. Had they stayed to work under the new editor, they would have been violating their own principles.

MacDougall wanted to, and

did, work on the GAZETTE. For some reason, he could not continue to do so. Why? Ask MacDougall, and you'll get one side. Ask Glenn Wanamaker, and you'll get another.

What is known is that there is a personality conflict.

This year, MacDougall decided he was capable of doing a better job of running the GAZETTE than Bezanson. Student Council thought so as well. For being able to convince Council that he could do a better job, having not worked on the paper for a full year, while his opponent had been intimately involved in the paper, he deserves credit.

The fact that he knew all the judges is coincidental, as is the fact that the former GAZETTE staff made it a habit of attacking Council.

Whatever the underlying rationale, MacDougall is now the editor of the GAZETTE. He may not hold the position too long, as Canadian University Press is now conducting an inquiry into the circumstances surrounding the entire affair. While he remains editor, though, he deserves the chance to put out a newspaper.

Since he took over on February 1, MacDougall has taken a lot of criticism, much of it unjustified. He is not the one who deserves to be raked over

the coals; rather, it is Council. They are the ones who put him in the position, they are the ones who refused his resignation. They are the ones who did not seek another solution, and have dropped the whole volatile question into the laps of a new, inexperienced Council.

It can be only hoped that the incoming Council will not be possessed of the same incredible arrogance which allowed the outgoing Council to ignore a petition signed by over one-seventh of the student body, and to make a vain attempt at sweeping the issue under the rug.

A new council hopefully will be forced to take a long look at the Constitution. What they should NOT do is fire MacDougall, hire Bezanson, and leave it at that. We would only be faced with the possibility of this situation repeating itself at some late date.

This problem must be examined in great detail, and a just solution arrived at. Will the new Council be better than the old?

Doug Mitchell

Ed. Note:

There are only a few points of Mitchell's that can be clarified by us. The rest of the points will have to be explained by the GAZETTE staff.

It had been the intention of

several members of Council, to try to straighten out the constitutional mess surrounding the GAZETTE affair. This was effectively thwarted when Tom Carter and Barry Ward moved to have the meeting adjourned.

However, another meeting has been requested by the Council, before the end of their term, so the matter does not necessarily have to be thrown into the laps of a new, inexperienced Council.

Another point to mention is that, regardless of the outcome of the Canadian University Press investigation, the facts brought out in their hearings and rulings they make are not binding on the incoming Council. They can either be acted upon, or ignored. The only reason that we are co-operating with the investigation is that we feel it is to this newspaper's advantage to remain in CUP. We do not, however, feel that they have handled the affair with the greatest degree of fact and diplomacy.

The final point to be made is that Council has not acted with any arrogance in the matter. Everything that has occurred has followed the procedures laid out in the constitution. The point to be raised here is this: can an organization that neither pays for, nor attempts the publication of the paper be allowed to dictate who is to become the editor of the paper, as Canadian University Press seems to be attempting to do? The Council is, despite the incredibly apathetic nature of the students on this campus, still elected by Dalhousie students.

There has to be some suitable compromise worked out, to benefit all concerned. We have already made our views known to the former staff. We WANT some sort of compromise. The onus is now on the GAZETTE staff.

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Slaunwhite to leave



offensively for Dal. The team's defence kept St. Mary's off balance and had the partisan crowd very much involved in the exciting contest.

The Tigers of the future have exciting prospects to anticipate, but for now, as Albert Slaunwhite plays his final game, all those connected with Dalhousie basketball wish him good luck, good health and continued success.

nationally ranked Huskies in the second half. Bruce Cassidy and Keith Johnson both played standout games defensively and

get it together at the getting-together place

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