



**Helen Bryant**

You can file this under The High Cost of Fame or Ribs Left Unticked: Don Henley is one mad desperado.

The object of his wrath: Sonny Bryan's Smokehouse, whose publicist released the information that Don had acquired some barbecue at the Inwood eatery. The news didn't quite make the front page, but it did land in one of my recent columns.

Don, the former Eagles singer-songwriter who has a home in Dallas, sent me a copy of a letter to Sonny Bryan's president Mike Meehan in which he gets down to the heart of the matter:

"Never in all my travels," he writes, "have I experienced a city like Dallas in which restaurants so shamelessly exploit the names of famous customers."



**Don Henley**

Don's letter alleges that revelation of his culinary habits constitutes trademark infringement: "Not only do I receive no monetary

compensation for these non-consensual endorsements — I don't even get free food."

He goes on, proclaiming in the last paragraph: "You put my name in the paper; I never come back to your restaurant."

So. Good thing I don't own a restaurant.

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