

Letters cont'd...

Muslims mad

To the Editor:

Re: "Muslim Club Denied Office Space"

The Muslim students of the U of A were infuriated by the careless and biased way the article was written. For the last few years, the SU has been harassing the Muslim Student Association by initially refusing to provide office space or refusing funding for its activities.

But this year for the first time in five years, SU has thrown MSA out of the SUB completely. MSA members used to take advantage of the library located in its office to prepare for the seminars given by M.S.A. every single Friday. This year all the books have been packed up and thrown somewhere down in the basement of SUB.

"Using office space for purposes not written down in the application form" was quoted by the Clubs Commissioner to be the reason for this expulsion. Both he and the Gateway reporter have zeroed in on the fact that sometimes members prayed in the office, and once or twice it involved moving the table sideways and then putting it back.

A Muslim is compelled to pray in any space available when it is time for prayer. It does not matter if he is in SUB, HUB or a battlefield for God's sake. If SU didn't want us to pray, they could tell us so clearly when we met with the Building Services Board, but they did not and they did not put any other club with us until December.

That club was the Chinese Catholic Community and we met people from that club only once. We agreed with their representative that the office will be ours from 12-2 p.m.

We never 'abused' a SU executive or anyone else simply because they did not contact us anymore. So it came to us as a great shock when we found out that, once again, we have been subjected to undue harassment.

We know the Clubs Commissioner won't realize it because he draws a parallel between the Ismaili and the Muslim students, but we hope he will at least pretend to realize the wrong SU have done to MSA.

Ahmed Atallah
Khaled Obaia
Ibrahim Souidi
Selim Sial
Grad Studies

Opinion



Strippergate cont'd

Alright - enough is enough! The mere idea that anyone elected to serve the students would have the nerve to spend our money on their perverted sexual fantasies is outrageous! Then the fact that none of the people involved -even the ones who authorized the questionable cheque -will give a straight answer as to who was ultimately responsible is pathetic. But now the Students' Union thinks they can get away with it!

The October 13 issue of the Alberta Report looked into the "Strippergate" issue and the attitude of those involved is inexcusable. Now that he's off the hot seat, Mike Nichol is washing his hands of the whole affair. As the article states, when confronted with the question of what really happened he "won't even admit he was there."

Granted, Mr. Oginski is in a tight spot having to deal with this issue from the very start of his term. And it does bring his integrity into question (regardless of who is responsible). But I think the student body would have a lot more respect for him if he met the issue head on rather than taking Mr. Nichol's evasive approach. Unfortunately, the Alberta Report quotes Mr. Oginski as saying "Unless the student body itself should press for action, nothing will be done about it."

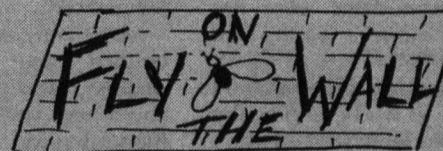
Now the question remains: Are we going to let them get away with this? Thank God Connie Uzwyshyn had the guts to call the executive on the misuse of our funds - but what have we done to pursue it? There was not one student response in any of the issues following the "Strippergate" article and obviously, unless we push, Mr. Oginski will not pursue it.

So it's time we got up off our collective butts and let the Student Union know we don't appreciate their laissez-faire attitude. They can only ignore us for so long!

by Sherri Ritchie

The tradition of all the
dead generations
weighs like a night-
mare on the brain of
the living.

Karl Marx



J. Dylan

There is love in the air in Emily Murphy Park today. Everywhere one looks there are people — men and women — enjoying the beautiful weather. Some of them are laughing; some are talking; some are jogging; some are walking; and some are surveying. That's right. Some are jogging; some are walking; and some are surveying. Apparently, U of A's Engineering department has decided to let their Civil Engineers do some surveying.

Throughout the park one hears shouts of "4 POINT 271", or "3 POINT 6 21!" As the surveyor shouts to the rodman/rodwoman. These shouts are followed, almost always, by a "WHAT?", then the surveyor would repeat the numbers and the rodman/rodwoman, who is also recording the readings in the book, would shout back, "ARE YOU SURE?", and the surveyor would shout back, "YES!"

Sometimes, however, since there were so many surveyors in the park, the readings would be hard to understand. The surveyor would shout "3 POINT 1 4!", and the rodman/rodwoman would shout back, "3 POINT WHAT?", and the surveyor would shout back, "3 POINT 1 4!", then he would turn to a fellow surveyor and say, very quietly, "I swear that guy is deaf", and the rodman/rodwoman would shout back, "SHUT UP, I AM NOT!"

Or sometimes the surveyor would shout, "HOLD IT STRAIGHT!", meaning the rod, and the rodman/rodwoman would shout back, "I AM!", and the surveyor would shout back, "LIKE HELL YOU ARE!"

What a beautiful day.

So, what d'ya think, Paul? Is the Gateway a great paper or what?... We've been trying to get Big Daddy-O on the show for weeks, but we've had to make do with the likes of Phil Collins, Tom Brokaw, and Stevie Winwood.

Yessirree, I sure hope he comes through for us soon, the ratings are dropping, but how can we compete with all that fun and excitement at the Gateway.

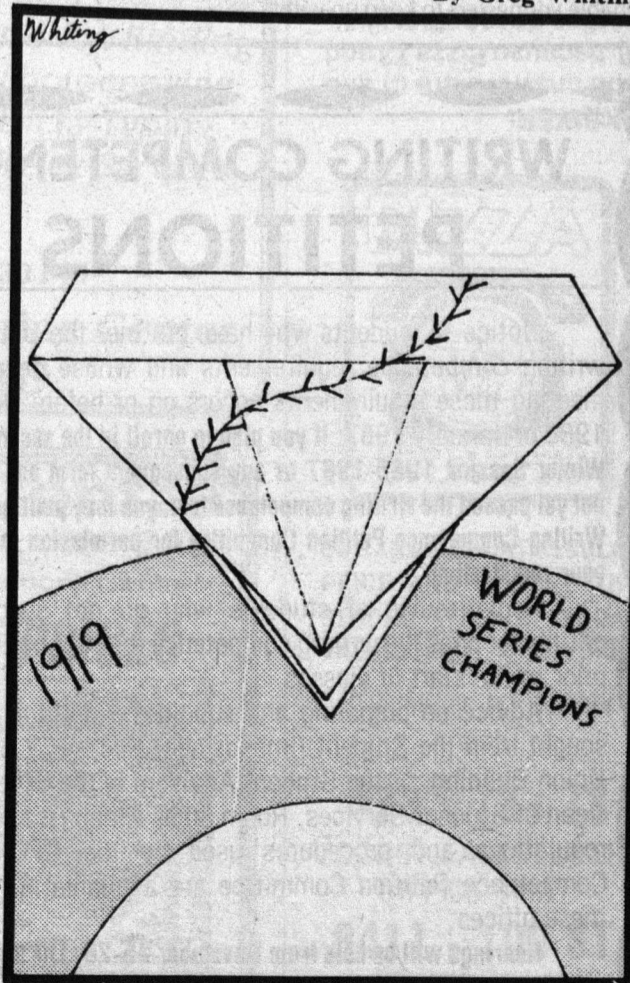


ERIC SE BAICH

If you too want to be on Letterman, come write for the Gateway and we'll see what we can do.

The Round Corner

By Greg Whiting



Baseball diamond.