

letters

buildings

Is it too late to keep a new Business Administration building out of the grounds in front of old Arts and Tory? I know that Business wants its students close to the arts buildings and Tory, but I wonder whether that would not be possible by putting the building north of Agriculture or south of the new arts building. Or could not Business have old Arts, and its present occupants have a new building?

The addition to Rutherford took a large part of the grounds in front of old Arts and Tory. A new Business building would take even more of the grounds, crowding the north end of HUB, and taking away the trees in front of Tory. As ugly as Tory is now it is a thing of beauty compared to how it will look without the cover of those trees. Public Relations is always careful to photograph our buildings through trees and shrubs.

Richard Baird
Political Science

second look

We who have been involved in the 'Second Look' magazine are dismayed that Ms. Candace Savage would presume to criticize our publication before so much as a proof has been made available to her scrutiny.

However it is not merely Ms. Savage's journalistic ethics that must here be considered—it is also important to question the validity of her concern with the concept of "A Second Look".

Firstly, it has never been our intention to 'plaster over the cracks in the University'. As relatively mature students we feel very privileged to be part of the University scene—we have chosen it after careful consideration of alternatives available to us as individuals. Ms. Savage could never convince us that we alone feel that the life experience gained on this campus is not immeasurably valuable.

Whether or not, one's particular persuasion required an elitist or non-elitist University, we feel everyone who must make a choice in direction—should see the University from a favourable vantage point.

If the University is to be considered a job-training factory, it is obvious that we are ill-equipped to satisfy a large proportion of the citizens.

If, on the other hand, the University is to be considered an experience, a

challenge, an opportunity for self fulfillment, then we have a grand purpose.

Sent to employees and students alike, 'A Second Look' will hopefully show that students of the University of Alberta are well-rounded, energetic and adaptable individuals.

The 'real dummy' is the student who can only find in University a job-training assembly line. This is not our potential audience - we only want to inspire those who can seek and find rewards in the University setting. It is their right to be informed that this opportunity awaits them - whether or not it certifies them for automatic employment.

Not only meant to offer a look at University to prospective students (whose ultimate choice is still their own) but also meant to instill a respect for the capabilities of University of Alberta graduates in prospective employers, we feel 'A Second Look' is a magazine from a student's point of view - not a student who is negative, pessimistic and elitist about people's right to knowledge - but the student who enjoys the campus for its challenge, its association, and its dynamics.

We who are working on 'A Second Look' independent of HUB considerations or any other financial considerations, are frankly upset that this year's "Gateway" should base its initial editorial in subjectivity, elitism and lack of information that plagued its predecessor. We welcome criticism and input but we do not understand or condone the inadequate and inaccurate reporting of the magazine's concept. While we respect the duty of The Gateway is to inform and protect the student body, we submit that this purpose is best served by something more than a superficial knowledge in those areas brought into question.

We hope that Ms. Savage's apparent anti-intellectualism and negativism will not be well received by the "Gateway's" readers.

Saffron Shandro
Commerce Representative
Duane Stewart
Executive Assistant,
Students' Union

parking crusade

Note: The following letter was sent by students' union president Gerry Riskin to 40 homes in the Garneau district. A copy of this letter subsequently appeared in a fledgling campus newspaper known as the Poundmaker, along with the information that it had been typed, duplicated and mailed at students' union expense.

Dear Occupant,
I require a parking place, hopefully with plug-in, for the coming Law School term.

I would sincerely appreciate your contacting me as soon as possible if you have parking spaces to rent.

I may be contacted at 432-4236 during office hours (if I'm not in, leave a message), and in the evenings at 482-1295.

I hope by arranging for a parking place early I can save both you and myself some trouble in September. Your anticipated cooperation is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

Gerald A. Riskin

In response to the publication of this letter Gerald Riskin sent the following letter to the Gateway.

There are those who desire more information with respect to my "parking crusade" of late.

In years past, trying to find parking places for Law students involved walking up and down the two streets adjacent to the Law Center. This involved leaving a small xeroxed note asking the occupants to contact me if parking spaces were available. As a result of that effort, I was able to get several Law students parking spaces very close to their building (of course, I took one of the closest, being of sound mind and all that).

My xeroxed notes in the past were also framed as personal requests. I was unable to summon the energy to give a full explanation.

This year in order to be consistent with my philosophy that the early bird gets the worm, I set out in search of parking spaces at the end of July. Because of a combination of laziness and the reluctance to take time off work to walk around two city blocks in North Garneau, I chose the preferable alternative of mailing my requests this year.

As in the past, I canvassed only two city blocks in the entire district of North Garneau.

Ironically, perhaps, I will not require a parking space for myself this year, but have been able to make some available to other students as in the past. My estimated cost of the said "parking crusade" includes \$1.00 for the typing of the letter, approximately 2 cents x 40 for xeroxing (i.e. 80 cents) and 8 cents x 40 for a first class mailing (i.e. \$3.20). I believe the effort to have been well worth the \$5.00 spent.

Two of the 40 who received my request complained to me believing that the letters constituted some sort of abuse. To Mr. M.A. Kulpa, 11015-89 Avenue and Craig Elder, 11043-88 Avenue I replied and explained some of the background contained in this letter.

Perhaps it would serve well to end this letter as I did the one to Mr. M. A. Kulpa. A mixed reaction to my letter is understandable since it did not fully explain its purpose. For that I apologize.

Gerald A. Riskin
President, Students' Union

counterpoint

staff comment

Riskin's letter

Gerald Riskin, in his letter to the Gateway (see this page) has failed to adequately assess the issues involved in his sending a letter to the residents of Garneau requesting a parking space.

I think that the question most people would ask of him is this: "Did you spend \$5.00 of the S U budget for your private, personal ends?" Nowhere in his letter does he provide an unambiguous reply to this question.

Such a reply might have been phrased like this: "It was my purpose to secure parking space for the president of the Student's Union, that is I was acting in an official capacity to secure a service that is necessary for whoever is in the position of S U president." Then, I would have expected him to explain why the S U president has this special privilege.

Alternatively, he might have said that he was performing this service for the benefit of all law students, himself included, in which case I would expect an explanation of why law students deserve special consideration and why the request was framed as if it were for himself only.

Perhaps Mr. Riskin, realizing that neither of these positions are tenable, has deliberately elected to obscure and side-step the issues. If this is not the case then I am bewildered that he did not anticipate the sort of questions that would obviously be raised.

Arthur Savage

Mr. Gerald Riskin
President, Students' Union
c/o The Gateway
Dear Gerry,

Could you please find me a parking place too?

I'm not a law student, but I certainly need a place to park.

Great to have a students' executive who provide so many services for their constituents.

Thanks,
Allyn Cadogan

Bears and booze

One might think of the University of Alberta as a learned institution where intelligent people readily exchange ideas.

But this isn't evident by the actions of some inane, irresponsible students attending athletic events last year. One example of their rowdy behaviour was the throwing of bottles from the stands, a dangerous, imbecilic stunt.

Additionally, the odd (and I do mean odd) individual relieved himself over the backdrop of the rickety, varsity stadium stands. This year, washrooms will be installed behind the west-side seats.

This type of behaviour is particularly frustrating for athletics director Chuck Moser and associates considering they have allowed Bears fans numerous freedoms. The U of A in fact is the only western intercollegiate member which doesn't strictly enforce the laws governing alcoholic consumption in public places.

Anyone who attended the Bear game last weekend in Calgary witnessed policemen circulating through McMahon stadium, ejecting several drinking spectators.

The athletic department has run into considerable flak from the administration and may have to enlist the help of Edmonton's men in blue at sporting events.

"I don't want to bring in the city police" Moser says, "so we talked the administration into having students patrol the stands."

"I'm not trying to change people sociologically. We aren't saying they can't drink; rather we just want them to use some discretion so that we don't ruin the enjoyable atmosphere here at Varsity stadium. Some people bring children and it isn't a pleasant sight."

"The Bears think they have the greatest fans in the league," Moser added, "but they were so disturbed over some of the conduct in the stands that it affected their play."

Besides, the Bears play well enough that you shouldn't have to get drunk to become excited.

Brian Tucker