

The Gateway



Jacques Berube's photographs, on display at Latitude 53, catch people in contemplative moments. CANDID p.6

RATT customers caged in

by L. Robertson

"I never, ever want to do that again! What a nightmare!"

Those words are Rick Stedman's account of how much fun it was to construct and install the restraining bars on SUB's seventh floor lounge, Room at the Top (RATT).

The SU VP Internal collaborated with VP Academic Dale Nagel to create the structure in response to a long-time problem at the SU bar — namely, people hopping, over the wooden partition which separates the elevator foyer (containing the people who aren't drunk), from the rest of the bar (those who are drunk).

Stedman's frustration stems from the difficulties he and Nagel encountered in completing the task.

"We phoned all the contractors we could get hold of and they basically told us where to go. They said they couldn't do it for the

money we had to offer, so we built it ourselves. What a mistake!"

Stedman referred to the considerable amount of time spent on the project, and to his appreciation for the expertise of a contractor. He indicated that the estimates received from the contractors averaged around \$3000-\$4000. When you see the structure, you may appreciate why.

The "RATT Cage", as it is nicknamed, consists of 1/2 inch thick steel bars bolted into the wooden frame surrounding the elevators, and covering the total distance between the top of the partition and the ceiling. The frame is also bolted into the ceiling and the concrete housing of the elevator shaft. Approximately six inches apart, the bars completely prevent anyone from entering the lounge without the consent of the doorman.

"It was getting to be a real problem," said one bartender. "It got so bad that they were jumping over the partition on the cashiers' side. How desperate can you get? You're guaranteed to be caught that way."

As an added bonus, the space between the bars does not facilitate the mysterious disappearance of beer pitchers, another long-time problem.

Despite the money saved by the SU, Stedman insists that he would not want to tackle the assignment again.

"It took two twelve-hour days to weld together (the structure) and another twelve hours to install. We had to open the bar late (7:30 pm) last Saturday because it still wasn't ready."

The efforts didn't go unappreciated, however. RATT manager Don Moore had been asking for the structure to be built for almost two years.

"This will make the doorman's job a lot easier and I'm sure we won't lose nearly as many jugs," said Moore. "It's great."

And what do the students think about it? The jury seems to be out for the moment, but it is likely that a lot of fast opinions will be formed on Friday, when most students gather for their weekly binge. Initial reaction, however, tends to be negative. In the words of a few students so far:

"Gross me out the door."

"It's already hard enough to get into this stupid bar. Why did they have to do this?"

"... needs paint."

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

PEOPLE — p.3

The mother and sister of slain American Ben Linder talk about his work in Nicaragua.

OPINION — p.4

The Lubicon Lake Indian band face genocide. To date, the government has sat back and let it happen.

LES BALLET JAZZ — p.6

Since its inception, Les Ballet Jazz has gained recognition on five continents.

FEATURE — pp.8&9

The Canadian arms industry has been involved in almost all the world's current trouble spots.

SWIMMING — p.13

The U of A swim team will compete for \$3000 in prize money this weekend.



Student politicians demonstrate the effectiveness of the RATT cage.

Photo Bruce Gardava

SU travel costs repaid

by Roberta Franchuk

Tim Boston, President of the Students' Union, has paid back \$159.29 of the \$650 he was reimbursed for driving his own car to a conference in Vancouver in August.

The money is the difference between the reimbursement and the cost of renting a University vehicle from Vehicle Pool for the same trip.

Boston, VP External Paul LaGrange, and External Commissioner Andrew Fredericks drove Boston's car to a Canadian Universities Students' Executive Council conference at UBC in August.

Students' Council had allocated \$600 for three plane tickets for the trip, but neglected to consider transport to and from the airport. The cost for flying, said Boston, would have ended up being "around \$722"

"We thought we would save the Students' Union money," by using a private vehicle, said Boston. No one on Council or in the Executive considered using a University vehicle.

"It was a mistake," said Boston. "We would have taken a University car had we known it was cheaper."

Boston said that he had made arrangements to pay the difference

on Nov. 3, after it was pointed out to him. However, he left for a conference in New Orleans and was unable to give the Students' Union a check until Nov. 10.

Boston and LaGrange also drafted a policy to govern the methods of transportation used by councilors to go to conferences, to prevent an incident such as this from happening again. The policy has been referred to the Bylaws and Constitution Committee.

If passed by the Committee and then by Council, the policy will become a bylaw of the Students' Council, governing Council now and in future years.

Condom sales may expand

by Rob Johnstone

Condom machines have been in campus washrooms for three months now, and have met with generally favorable response from the student body. Now there is a move to increase the number of machines across campus to include residence and other selected washrooms.

The original motion in last year's Students' Council to obtain the machines read "Sex at a Profit", but the title was quickly dropped because the Students' Union wanted to downplay the fact that they would be making a profit off the sale of condoms. Housing and Transport Commissioner Graham Bowers was at the meeting and recalls the effort to remove the offensive title and replace it with one that would emphasize the service aspect of the venture.

The Students' Union received the Protex machines from The Protection Connection company in September, and has been netting 20¢ profit on every condom sale since that time. However, Tom

Wright, business manager for the Students' Union, stresses the fact that the percentage works out to a very minimal sum.

"Are we making a lot of money? The answer is no," Wright said. "The machines were put in as a service to students."

In fact, the SU has made only 42 dollars since September, which means that there have been only slightly more than 200 condoms sold.

VP Internal Rick Stedman said that the new move to increase the number of machines would include an attempt to cover "all washrooms in close range of drinking establishments," since it is assumed that students who have been consuming alcohol are the primary purchasers of condoms.

Housing and Food Services at Lister Hall has decided it will allow the student's association to decide if it wants the machines, and expects that the motion will be approved there.

Condom machines have been

placed in both men's and ladies' washrooms, but The Protection Connection was unavailable for comment on which machines are taking in more money.

The machines themselves have raised eyebrows on their differing approach to the sale of condoms. The men's machines are in white casings and offer either "super-sensitive" condoms or a "slimmer fit" ribbed model. The Lady Protex machines are in pink casings and offer the same "super-sensitive" condom, but the second choice is "double protection".

The Campus Crusade for Christ, which shares space in SUB with several other groups, had little objection to the machines or the fact

CONDOMS p.2

Handy Guide to Modern Science:

If it's green, it's biology.

If it stinks, it's chemistry.

If it doesn't work, it's physics.

Deisman wins Arts seat

by Smila Sharma

One hundred and fifty Arts students elected Wade Deisman to Students' Council Tuesday.

Deisman will fill the Arts seat left vacant when Robin Boodie resigned in September.

The spot was contested by three other candidates — Leana Shantz, Steven Seiker, and Debbie Cook. The four other Arts reps presently on council were all elected by acclamation in March.

Deisman's past political experi-

ence includes working with the Anti-Cutbacks Team (ACT) and serving on the External Affairs Board.

Deisman said that his major commitment was to "set up a table in HUB Mall once a week to talk to Arts students, find out what their concerns were, and bring those to council."

He also stressed the accountability of his position, promising to tell arts students "what was happening in council and how I dealt with it."

SHANTZ p.11/10/87