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Opinions expressed in the Gateway
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GRAPHICS

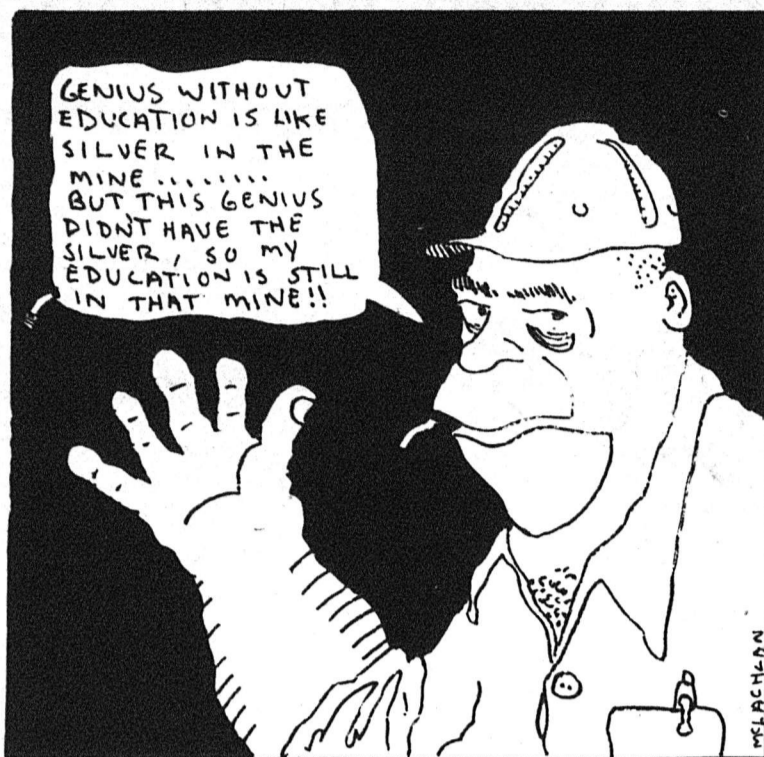
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letters

Uncomplimentary review

I feel obliged to counter the complimentary review of the Alberta Contemporary Dance Theater on Tuesday Jan. 27, by Don Truckey. If this group fails to put anymore enthusiasm into their dancing or car toward technical details, I fear they will not celebrate many more birthdays.

In short, this show was disappointing almost to the point of embarrassment from time to time. One wonders with the enormous amount of material to draw from in a parody of the twenties dance era, how the first number, 23 Skidoo, could actually be slow and even boring. True, the costumes here were interesting and Sherrie Waggner showed some sparkle in her part, but the rest of the group seemed not to actually put themselves into their roles. The choreography was unfortunately simple and disjointed, a slow start to a long show.

The second number progressed better after an exasperating delay, which left the audience quite restless. Here the choreography and interpretation reflected more thought but the dancers in general seemed incapable in performing technical aspects of the dances.

Spiral Vortex leads into more original choreography but completely falls apart on technical detail. By this number, we had already seen enough gauze veils without adding five more and tie-dyed leotards compounded the redundancy. The concept was interesting but the slides used as a background were poor and out of focus. The number included some dynamic movement but by the end it had become quite tiresome seeing the same person go up and down in the air simply because she obviously weighed the least.

Islands of Infinity offered more intimate glimpses - the sculpture was crude and disjointed, contrived seemingly only for the dance. Once more, the dancers showed their lack of articulation and enthusiasm, looking more like frogs in a series of what should have been elegant leaps.

The finale, a jazz composition proved somewhat of a relief. For the first time all evening, expression and enjoyment was communicated to the audience. After prior clumsy and stiff performance, the

group proved they could actually dance individually and in a synchronized fashion.

Conceptually, the program was rewarding but that was all. I am told this show indicated much improvement over earlier ones. Well... hopefully by next year the group will be able to sustain a level of quality throughout the entire show instead of short fragments diluted by technical ineptitude.

Carla Costuros

Society under microscope

In response to the article in *The Gateway* "Edmonton skin under the microscope", I must say I have rarely seen such ignorance in portraying a social problem.

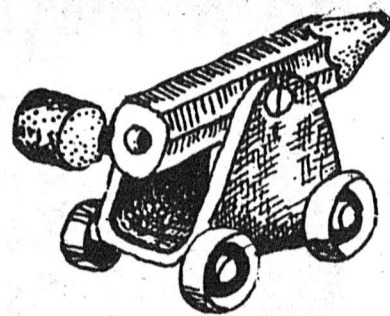
Consider, for example, a sentence in the introduction which states, "Replete with moral degradation, our society is slipping beneath the waves." Now, instead of examining the specific acts of "moral degradation", which everyone is more or less familiar with; would it not be more worthwhile to examine why this degradation is occurring. Instead of generating an emotional reaction to the problem of prostitution (I use the word loosely), can you not use your objective powers of analysis to look at the problem relative to its' position in society.

Prostitution etc., exists because there is a demand for it. Some people have emotional (as well as physical) needs which, in our present society, can only be fulfilled peacefully through prostitution. What would you have these people do? Perhaps go home and take out their frustration by beating their wives or children, or perhaps by raping a few more girls on campus?

What can you possibly accomplish by writing crap of this sort? Maybe the legislators will increase censorship. Since there does exist a demand for prostitution I propose the same thing would happen in that instance as happened when prohibition was introduced. We both know what became of that attempt to take something away from people which they feel is basic to them.

That said, I ask you again, why not spend your time looking for alternatives to give the people who frequent the places you described, rather than disgusting readers with a report of what occurs there? Your approach would seem to do much

**MORE LETTERS,
on page 5**



editorial

Packages no deal

Everybody has advice these days. Everybody wants to tell you what to do, and how to do it. Elections in particular bring that out in people.

So, my advice to you is to ignore the advice others have been giving you. We have four slates running in this election, all telling you to cast your votes in block support of five candidates who happen to be running together. Ignore them.

My knowledge of the matter is that at least one slate (Mason) just barely managed to rally five members together before nominations closed. So any arguments that a slate would have its policy cohesive before taking office would be silly. For the most part my observation has been that the slates are not really cohesive units at all, and had just been formed to increase any particular candidate's chances of winning. Only the socialist slate is an exception here.

You may also have observed as I have, that each slate has its share of ding dongs on them. To vote for a package would be to vote for the lesser qualified contained in the package.

To exemplify this argument, if you get the chance ask the various candidates (especially the Janssen Slate) who is taking whom before the Discipline, Interpretation and Enforcement Board, and for what reasons. Subtleties in the constitution forbid that mention names - the injured party heading his unfortunate slate might haul me up before DIE Board again, or the provost, or the Alberta Supreme Court.

By the way, while you're asking Janssen about his views on how to run an election, ask him about his policies regarding the SU. (e.g. why does he support the formation of a housing registry when we already have one?)

So don't think packages unless you're thinking Socialist slate. Otherwise I advise that you think of selecting individuals who exude some kind of competence about them rather than the confetti approach of electing a slate of non-entities.

My cushy job

Being editor of a student newspaper isn't really as bad a deal as I sometimes make it out to be.

I have my luxurious private office with one of the best views in SUB. I have my own antique typewriter to use exclusively, some filing cabinets to file things in, my own phone, and bulletin board, a soft chair, and all other kinds of gravy-train items.

I have about as much power as I would want to use. I chose my staff, set my own policies, wrote and fought through my own budget (still undersized) and enjoyed the responsibility of managing and improving the newspaper.

I get paid, too. Almost minimum wage.

But it seems hardly anybody wants my job next year! When nominations closed, we only had one application to consider. We can't have an election that way, now, can we?

I won't get on any apathy hobby horse because I know one reason why most of our staff who would be eligible won't apply. It's because of the magazine we plan to publish next year (if we get the budget). Ah, yes, Equal glory, etc. and only having to publish once a month, plus you'd have the challenge of producing that different kind of medium. It is a fascinating prospect granted. There'll be a hot contest there.

But still, won't anyone else run for *Gateway* editor? I never thought I'd live to see the day when I'd have to ask that question.

It's a lot of work and hassles for the money, sure. Sure you have to drop all your courses, sure you get a lot of hassles for the mistakes you make, sure you have to put up with blockheaded stubbornness of the General Office. But try to think of it as... as... as a learning experience... or something.

Some student out there wants to be *Gateway* editor - to make the election a contest - I just know it. So the publications board has extended the nomination date till 4:30 next Monday.

I really think managing next year's production will be an opportunity you won't want to pass up. This year's budget problems and such probably won't be the same next year, plus there'll be a larger more experienced staff to draw from, a magazine to participate in, the possibility of off campus coverage and distribution, maybe increased press runs and frequency, a telex machine in the office, consistent graphics, better photos, color, our own press, a link with the Anik satellite, a Peking correspondent ...G.