

continued

ii) One doesn't applaud automatically whenever the music stops, and for the same very good reason as above. A set of pieces is arranged to fit together, for the audience's benefit as well as the performer's. If you don't know when a set ends, check your programme - a completely empty line after a piece denotes the end of a set or, failing that, wait for someone else who does know what they're doing to lead off. If no one else claps, then you're usually best to keep quiet yourself.

iii) If impressed with a performance, (or if the musician happens to be a close personal friend), it may seem that more response is needed on the audience's part than just a smattering of applause. If that's the case, one may cry out, (gently, so as to not give the little old man in front of you heart failure) "Bravo!", if the performer is a man, or "Brava!" if a woman, or even "Encore!" if you want to hear more. Care should be taken not to confuse these terms, though; to yell "Bravo!" of a lady implies that her performance reminded you in some way of a man's (and vice-versa), and to cry "Encore" when you really mean "Bravo" is liable to find you caught halfway out of the hall just as the musician begins the (requested) next number.

Elementary etiquette, you say? Perhaps, but I've noticed that the worst offenders are often the students attached to the Faculty of Music. Children, please put yourself in the performer's place. He or she has usually worked towards the recital for at least a couple of hours each and every day for the last year. How many of you can honestly say you spent that much time studying for a single exam?

Music played without an audience is somewhat akin to masturbation and whether the orgasm is good for everybody involved depends on proper responses at the appropriate time. A good music lover has to appreciate the concentration, nuance and delicacy of the musician's performance; not just arrive, absorb and depart.

All I ask is that common sense and courtesy be applied. Have a heart, people!

Peter McClure

Andrew was wishy-washy

Unlike my colleague Mr. Mogge, this grad. student takes more than a passing interest in the content of your once-esteemed paper for the simple reason that it is the only worthwhile newspaper on campus (with the possible exception of the NASA paper, which I have only seen once). *Folio* is now produced on such low-quality paper that one almost feels impelled to contribute a few sheets to the production. But Gateway soldiers on, so it was with interest that I perused Mr. Watts' "lauditorium" of 15 March.

Unfortunately, it is largely immaterial what Mr. Watts thinks of his fellow workers, since to all intents and purposes, they are still with us. He is not. More significant might be an item on how the Gateway staff saw Mr. Watts. This reader feels that the outgoing editor was quite adequate in the sports section, but woefully inept as editor-in-chief. The standard of English exhibited in the editorials would have been hardpressed to scrape through a remedial English examination and hardly set an example to the readership. If the managing editor was serious about his insertions of (sic) in many of the letters, he would have done well to start with the editor-in-chief.

But, worse, whatever happened to the bold and forthright editorial comment about current issues, inside and outside campus? The heart gives an involuntary shudder when one recalls the pathetic "Why PCs Now," but that was about the closest the former editor ever came to making a stand. Even South Africa was given a whitewash, largely through Gateway's reluctance to take sides. Whether there was a serious conflict of interest between Mr. Watts' new position and his old one I do not know (he seemed to stand basically for a wishy-washy adherence to the status quo, as represented by the provincial conservatives), but one can hardly regret his leaving.

So it is not only undergraduates who will welcome Mr. Jang (and his initial editorial bodes well for his tenure as editor). The change and a new face for the paper is much needed.

Brian Cohen, Grad. Studies

It's your week, baby

March 21 - 25 is National Student Week, and I would like to draw your attention to some of the serious problems facing students at this university.

There has been a lot of talk about "quality" education, and "accessible" education. Perhaps this is the time that we have to listen to the discussion of these issues, because without awareness on this campus, these will soon be ideals of the past.

Over the past few years we have seen the beginnings of the erosion that endangers our education at this institution. It started with a few cutbacks here and there, and some said it was trimming the fat. Then we began to notice that our classes were larger. There are fewer courses and sections to choose from. Equipment and supplies are harder to come by, and even then they are out of date. Add to this concise list the problems of a badly funded library. To top it off we are also looking at quotas in all faculties. This is more than a slight problem. We are facing serious underfunding at this university and it won't stop until we convince our governments that we have to make education a priority.

Right now some people are working on the problems of underfunding, not to mention tuition, student aid and access to post secondary education. If you are interested in your education and the issues threatening it, be sure and come to the rally Thursday at 12:30 in the Rutherford Concourse. A variety of speakers will talk about the urgent matters of quality and access. Speakers will include the President of the University, Dr. Horowitz, and Brenda Cote, Chairperson of the Canadian Federation of Students.

I hope that you will take the time to be at the rally. Take an interest in your education before someone takes it away from you.

Dawn Noyes, Arts III

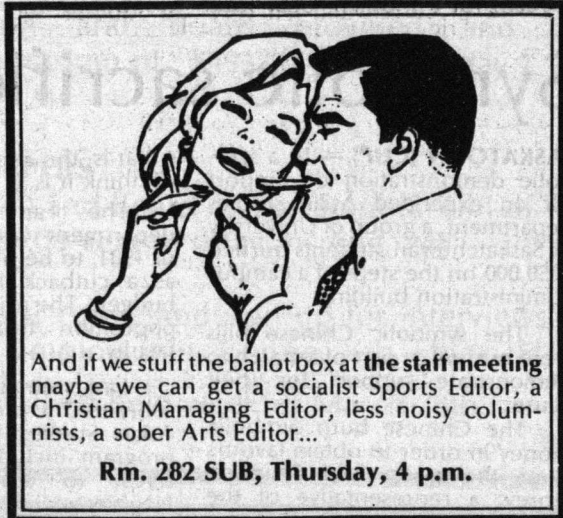
Please note the rally is at 12:30!

Razz Baz, brava Sarah

Thank heaven for the change of cartoonists! The "Baz" contributions were unfunny at the best of times but "Sarah" I find pleasant and fresh.

Vicki Low
Education After Grad. Degree

Letters to the Editor should be under 250 words, and must be signed and include faculty, year and phone number. Anonymous letters will not be printed, although we will withhold names. All letters should be typed or very neatly printed. We reserve the right to edit or delete letters for reasons of space or libel. Letters do not necessarily reflect the views of the Gateway.



And if we stuff the ballot box at the staff meeting maybe we can get a socialist Sports Editor, a Christian Managing Editor, less noisy columnists, a sober Arts Editor...

Rm. 282 SUB, Thursday, 4 p.m.

CHOPPING BLOCK

by Jens Andersen

The Stephen Dawson court case appears to be over, but the knotty question it raised is still with us: what should be done about people with severe handicaps?

There are a number of side-issues which complicate the question, but a basic answer is possible. Nietzsche, in fact, supplied one and since I can think of no way to improve on it I will simply reprint it:

The invalid is a parasite on society. In certain cases it is indecent to go on living. To continue to vegetate in a state of cowardly dependence on doctors, once the meaning of life, the right to life, has been lost, ought to be regarded with the greatest contempt by mankind.

As you can tell by the use of the word "cowardly," Nietzsche was discussing suicide, but it seems to me that the principle is applicable to euthanasia as well. After all, one of the most compelling reasons to commit suicide is gross mental collapse, but ironically, once one's brain caves in, one generally loses one's will or capacity to do so (Hemingway is an exception here: he retained both the will and the capacity, and succeeded in committing suicide. Nietzsche, who also suffered a



mental collapse, probably would have done the same if he had had lucid moments like Hemingway).

In short, once a person's mental functioning sinks irrevocably below a certain level, euthanasia is the only decent thing to do, and any friends of the person will recommend it.

There are, of course, borderline persons — morons and such — who can support themselves through menial jobs and should be given the benefit of the doubt. Stephen Dawson, however, is far beyond this grey area. He is blind, deaf and severely mentally handicapped, according to news reports (and, just out of curiosity, I would like to know how they test a blind, deaf and uncommunicative person for mental functioning).

If Dawson's mother is correct, he will have to have his diapers changed even when he is 40 years old. What is the purpose of sustaining such a vegetable existence? I can think of only one possibly good one: medical research. Aside from that, the only thing accomplished by Dawson's continued existence is a gigantic waste of time, effort and money to keep him alive and in clean diapers until he mercifully passes away.

It is even worse that his parents had to resort to the slow and distasteful process of withholding medical treatment to attempt the euthanasia. There should be a quick and painless way to put to death anyone in a condition as pathetic as that of Stephen Dawson. I suggest an overdose of morphine or LSD. In addition I propose that someone contrive a decent and dignified ceremony for the procedure. The clergy have already done as much for other forms of death with the funeral, and for birth with the christening. They have even elevated the mundane business of marriage with an uplifting ceremony. Surely they could do the same for euthanasia.

Unfortunately most of them are inordinately attached to the notion of the sanctity of life, and would probably decline to do so.

This Month At The **peoples pub** March 21 - 26: Gallery

Open from 7 p.m. • Tues. •
No cover Mon. - Tues. •
Wed. is Ladies Night •
& U of A Pub Night •
(Admission free to U of A students with I.D.)

RENFORD INN
on Whyte
433-9411
10620 - Whyte Ave.

Planning on going to the Pub?

fitzgerald's

Join us for dinner, with a reservation prior to 7 p.m., and we'll guarantee a reservation and free admission to the People's Pub. 433-9411

DINWOODIE
2nd Floor SUB.

CABARETS

Tickets are available from the SUB Box Office (2nd Floor SUB) and various club members.

NOTE: These events are open only to U of A students, staff, and guests.
Absolutely no minors admitted.

Physiotherapy/Dentistry 3 present

THE **MODELS**

Friday, March 25; 8 pm.

CUSO & Crossroads International present from Vancouver

part of the **b-sides** 3rd World Film Festival

Saturday, March 26; 8 pm.

U of A Ski Club presents

Secret Society

Thursday, March 31/83
Doors 8 p.m.