

EDITORIAL

Show your Christmas spirit

Today I'm going to ask you to do something simple.

All that I'm asking for you to do is, between classes, or maybe tomorrow morning before classes start, stop off at your local grocer, corner store, or local 7-11 and pick up something for Edmonton's Food Bank.

Isn't that simple? You can even drop off your food stuffs here at the Gateway this week and next week between 12 noon and 4 pm. We'll see that the food gets delivered to the food bank.

As it is a lot of Edmontonians are going hungry and the Food Bank's stores are awfully low.

What we're asking of the individual students is small, I mean, what is a can of beans? But multiply that can of beans by 24 thousand and we can feed an awful lot of Edmontonians over the Christmas holidays.

So please, pick up some non-perishable food stuff (anything high in protein would be appreciated) and drop it off at our offices in 282 Student's Union Building.

Let's show the rest of the city just how generous the students and staff of the U of A can really be.

Gilbert Bouchard

deWitness to massacre

"Head punches sustained by a boxer produce a series of brain traumas, usually involving concussions and contusions... A familiar example of concussion is the knock out in boxing matches. The fighter falls to the floor, probably hitting his head a second time; and may then show some reflexive movements of his arms and legs. After regaining consciousness, he appears somewhat disoriented and shows selective amnesia for the decisive blow.

"Contusions involve actual bruising of the neural tissue of the brain... the patient may not understand what has occurred and may become demanding and belligerent... Other patients simply appear confused and puzzled; they may have to be guarded to prevent them from wandering away."

Dr. Robert Keefe, from
Abnormal Psychology

Accompanying this analysis of a very particular type of brain damage are two photographs comparing the normal, grey brain to the blood-clotted brain of a concussion victim.

Last weekend, two dazed concussion victims wandered back home to the States, while two local boys boasted undefeated professional boxing careers.

Friday night, Shawn O'Sullivan floored Charlie Smith twice in the first round. When Smith went down for the third time, 34 seconds into the second round, he rose groggily, the referee asked him if he wanted to continue, Smith said no, and the match was over.

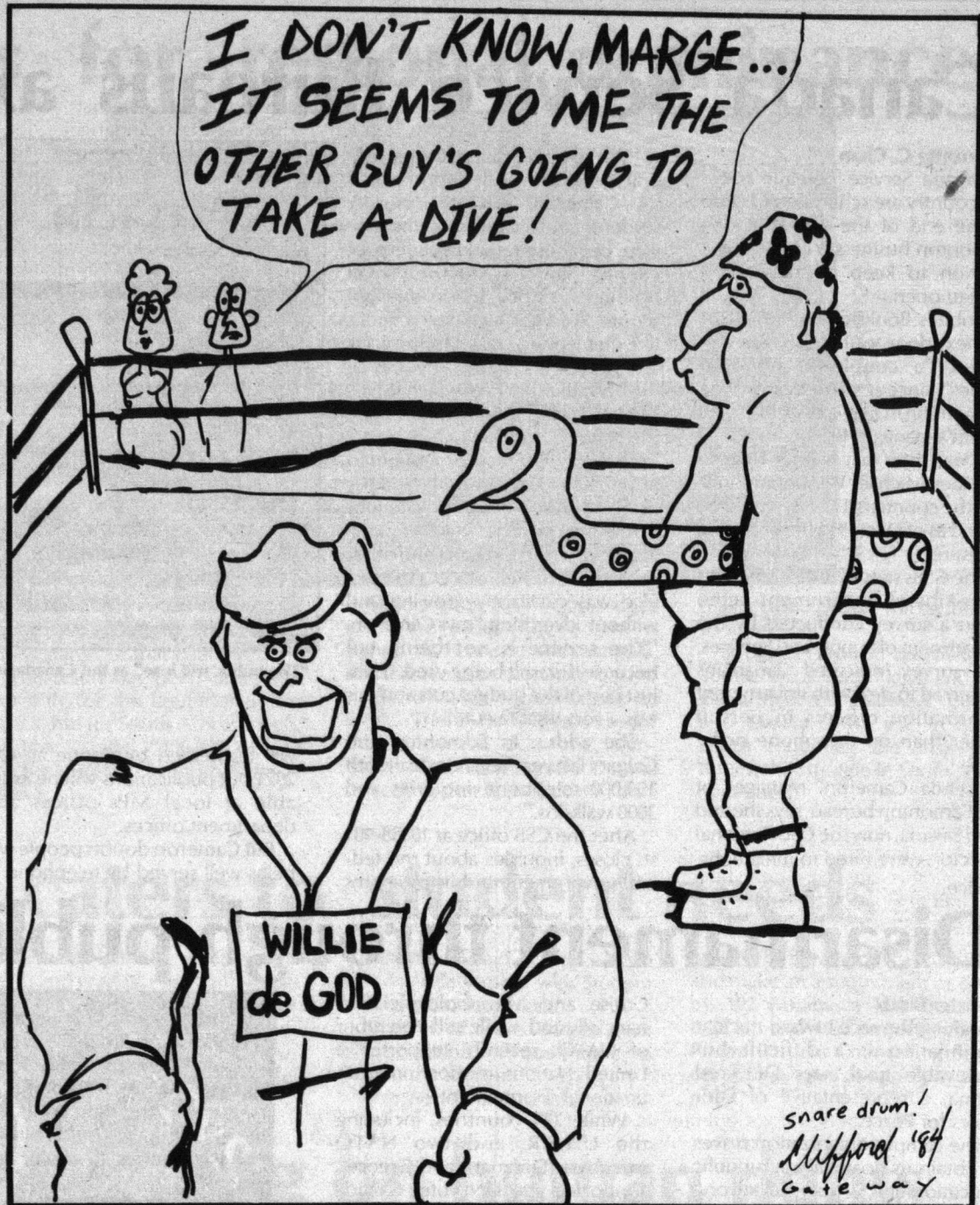
Saturday's massacre was even more disgusting. Before Willy de Wit's professional debut, his publicity manager was asked what a loss would mean to Willy's marketability. He answered bluntly, "total disaster."

Promoters simply could not allow Willy to lose, so they dug up an overweight garage mechanic from Lake Charles, Louisiana who hadn't seen the inside of a boxing ring in months, and had never heard of Willy de Wit, much less studied his technique. Fight promoters offered Ed Morgan a weekend excursion to Edmonton, plus \$1,500 spending money; all he had to do was stand in a ring and let his voluminous spare tire absorb a few punches. Morgan had to put in a full minute more than Charles Smith had; de Wit's first pro match was over a minute and 37 seconds into the second round.

Even though boxing has a history of hucksterism and shady deals, there was a time when the sport's advocates could argue that boxing was a legitimate test of skill between professional athletes. If these athletes choose to have their brains pummeled to mush, the argument went, so be it—it's a free world.

But that excuse is no longer valid. There may be a dozen or so dedicated, talented athletes still in the business, but they will never meet in a sporting bout. Their managers couldn't afford to have their man lose.

David Jordan



LETTERS TO THE EDITORS

Attack of the K.G.B.

The November 29th edition of the Gateway carried an account of the debate which attended the passing of the fiscal 1984-85 final operating budget of the students' union. In the coverage was an account of the personal attacks by Mr. Don Millar and Mr. Todd Rutter upon the Vice-President External, Mr. Paul Alpern. Later in the same story I was listed as being the only member of Students' Council, other than Mr. Millar and Mr. Rutter, to vote against the passage of the budget, thus potentially leaving the impression that I was in agreement with these two gentlemen. This impression is in error. In no way, shape, form, belief or intention do I support the shameful and objectionable conduct of these two individuals.

The constant efforts of Mr. Millar and Mr. Rutter to induce Students' Council to adopt "student awareness campaigns" along the radical lines used by themselves and the Canadian Federation of Students is something I must distance myself from. The intellectual level of the campaigns advocated by these two individuals seems to me to be roughly equivalent to that of a four-year-old child threatening to hold its breath until it turns blue.

I further find it objectionable that Mr. Millar and Mr. Rutter seem to spend much of their time in Students' Council trying to convince others to have the Students' Union spend much of the students' money attempting to "inform" (or brainwash) the student body into agreement with the radical posi-

tions of themselves [sic] and CFS.

For the record, I voted against the budget not out of any major objection, but due to the fact that an approximately \$5 million document was being debated at 11:15 p.m., and after only a few days of time for examination had been provided.

Kenneth G. Bosman
Science II

Food for thought

The last week of class can bring the anguishing realization that more work could have been done. But all is not lost. It is a very ancient tradition to alleviate guilt and to placate the gods (professors) with votive offerings of food.

To kill two birds with one stone, the student organizations on campus have been challenged to raise food for Edmonton's Food Bank. To make it interesting a friendly competition has been suggested.

Would each organization arrange its own drop-off point and truck the foodstuffs to the Food Bank for weighing so that proper records may be kept?

The demand on the Food Bank has been excessive, and it will get worse. The Food Bank is a central warehouse for 88 agencies in Edmonton distributing food hampers. The Food Bank is located in the Prince of Wales Armoury next to Victoria Comp High School.

John C. Van Damme SCJ

The Gateway

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Tim Heidt and Ashley Prest watched the Chargers beat the Bears while Virginia Gilese and Mike Evans scorned the Giff, Dandy and O.J. For higher forms of civilization — the A-Team, Falcon Crest, and Barbara Frum, Bill Overend was last seen at RATT watching MTV, whereas Don Teplysk preferred mellow surrounding - Dewey's. Peter Block wrote a novel; Joan Schiebelbein composed poetry. Jim Herbert? He got to the top of the mountain but couldn't find the meaning of life.