

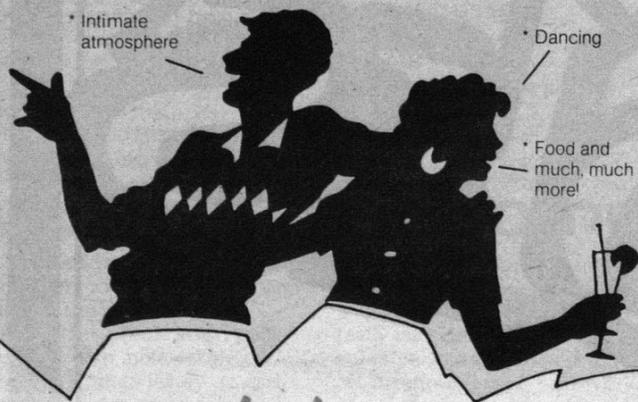
the Yellow Brick Road

hair grooming exclusively for men

THANKS FOR YOUR GREAT RESPONSE TO OUR \$10 CUT!
 We've extended it!
 (University I.D. must be presented)
SUN TAN PACKAGES AVAILABLE
 8621 - 109 Street 432-0055

P.S. Take a break between classes at our place. Shoot a game of pool, get a shave, use our suntan booth or just grab a friendly cup of coffee!

Edmonton comes together



at **the Club RENDEZ-VOUS**
 11727 Kingsway
 in Le Chateau Louis Motor Inn

DINWOODIE CABARETS

SU ENTERTAINMENT

AND

THE U OF A GOLDEN BEARS GYMNASTICS

Present

THE LAST LAST DAY OF CLASSES BASH

with

Party

Voice

"Live" BASH

Voice

FRIDAY, APRIL 11TH — 2:30 PM
 DINWOODIE LOUNGE
 2ND FLOOR — SUB

TICKETS: \$2.00 IN ADVANCE
 \$3.00 AT THE DOOR

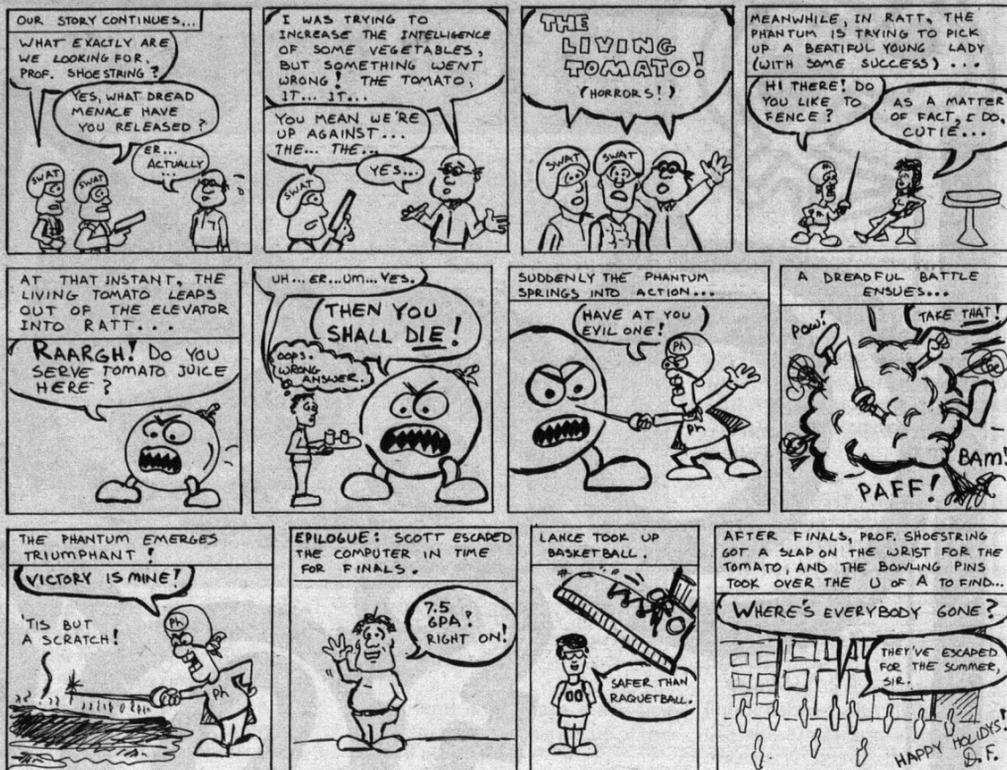
Available at the SUB BOX OFFICE: 432-5145
 and from club members
 (watch for booths in CAB and HUB)

NO MINORS — Proof of age required.

Thursday, April 10, 1986

The Comic Zone

by Don Filipchuk



Auld Lang Syne

Back when I was a bright-eyed bushy-tailed new Gateway recruit, I had a rough idea of what the Gateway could offer me. The paper advertised that as a Gateway volunteer, I would have the opportunity to develop my journalistic skills — everything from writing to interviewing to photography — and to contribute to an integral part of what lends a university its colour, its vivacity. Well, I'm happy and proud to say that the Gateway did provide me with valuable technical training, but I'm ingratiate to say that it was able to teach me something no one could ever learn from a textbook or in a classroom.

The one thing that I never expected from the Gateway was the lesson it taught about the importance of volunteerism.

The Gateway is a democratic voice for the students of the University of Alberta: it informs, it advocates, it agitates, it sometimes does nothing at all — but it could not do any of that or anything else if not for the enthusiasm and wishes of the volunteers that comprise the Gateway.

There has been criticism about the kind of things the Gateway covers and the manner in which they are covered. But there is no five-year plan — or even a five-minute plan. As a volunteer reporter three years ago, I always felt the door was open for my opinions, my thoughts, my agenda. All it cost me was a few moments energy and I could write about everything from the landscaping plans in quad to the SU budget to women characters in comic books. And volunteer reporters still have that freedom: the Gateway — i.e. themselves — allow them to.

Student newspapers are traditionally seen to be the place individuals can speak their minds, free of the outside political threats they are taught to expect in the "real world."

Unfortunately, not everyone respects the autonomy a student paper should always have. During my second year as a Gateway staffer, when I served as the Gateway's news editor, the paper was constantly threatened by outside forces with lawsuits, firings and shut-down. Our opponents accused us of being biased, yet none of our accusers had volunteered at the paper and new volunteers kept streaming in writing and drawing and photographing what they liked, what they thought the students of the U of A would like: a Literary Contest, articles on the Exam Registry, the working conditions of teaching assistants, the shrinking job market, Bear Country.

The Gateway staff — volunteers who were also U of A students — resisted any threats to our autonomy and the papers continues to strive for content for a wide spectrum of tastes, preferences and ideals. This year, we continued the idea of special supplements to give extended coverage to issues and events that warrant it: the Philippines, International Women's Day, Lesbian and Gay Awareness Week on campus, AIDS.

We have also given support to Studio Theatre, the U of A drama department's showcase for students actors, directors, set and costume designers and technicians. Our photographers put together a gallery of their work every month. Our sports pages asked hard questions on the viability of campus sports but celebrated the recent national victory of the hockey Bears.

We sent a reporter on the train to South Moresby to cover the state of the logging industry in British Columbia and the plight of the Haida Indians. We investigated the possibility of wrong-doing amongst the executives of the students' union of the Faculte St. Jean — and subsequently have been proud to present articles in the "other" official language of our country and our university. We also offered enlightened shades of purple with a feature on equalist Dale Spender.

There were many achievements that are set down in tangible form, but many more that are personal triumphs — and this does not mean the inclusion of an important-sounding line in a resume. I cannot speak for anyone else who has worked at the paper, but I will always remember that the Gateway was the place at which I discovered my own personal strength, my ability to weather ten storms at once and to survive and thrive afterward.

I also discovered my limitations — and not just after the twenty-first hour of a press night. The Gateway cannot be run by one person. It's not just the physical task. The Gateway would be nothing without the compromises (not sacrifices), informal exchange of divergent ideals, the two-hour staff meetings, the intermittent candy bar or beer break during the press nights that would drag on until 4 a.m., the exciting interviews with people like Robertson Davies or Mr. Universe, the disappointing interviews, the early appointments, the scramble at deadline time, the drafts that go missing, the collapse of ancient photo equipment, the last-minute editorials (yes, I am writing this eight hours after deadline), the stomach-testing coffee from the vending machines in SUB.

The people I work with are listed in the box on page five, but I wish to give special thanks to some people who work thanklessly hard for the Gateway and who — sometimes — make my day: Audrey Djuwita, who says she will be hesitant when she leaves Canada to return to Indonesia; Lutful Kabir Khan, who will bring back a diverse portfolio of articles, photograph and graphics to Bangladesh; Shaun Cody, Marc Tremblay, Wayne Hoyle, Dee Fleming, Emma Sadgrove, Mac Hislop (who can be seen live at Mmmuffins in SUB), Jerome Rychborst, and Andy Phillpotts — all of whom joined us late in the year but who have been valuable and positive additions to the paper; Hans Beckers, Tim Enger, Don Filipchuk, Roberta Franchuk, Doug Schmidt, Alex Miller, Pernell Tarnowski, John Charles, Gary Dhillon, Bruce "Do-nothing" Gardave, Blaine Ostapovich, Ashram Mustapha, Susan Sutton, Don Teplyske and Greg Whiting for sticking around most of the year and contributing to all aspects of the paper.

None of the journalistic and artistic achievements of Gateway volunteers would be widely known if not for our typesetters, patient and godly, especially Edna Landreville and Louise Hill. Brougham Deegan, thankfully stepped in at the last second, although we'd like to forget about the classified.

I could not possibly recap here the Twilight Zone adventures I've had at the Gateway, but I wish to all the next year's staff — Greg Halinda, Anne Watson, Kathleen Beechinor, Mark Spector, Juanita Spears, Dean Bennett, John Watson, Rob Schmidt and George Onwumere — an enriching an experience as I have had.

Suzette C. Chan