

# The Gateway

THE GATEWAY is the newspaper of the students of the University of Alberta. It is published by the Students' Union twice weekly during the winter session on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Contents are the responsibility of the editor, opinions are those of the person expressing them. Letters to the editor on any subject are welcome, but must be signed. Please keep them short: letters should not exceed 200 words. Deadlines for submitting copy are 2 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays. Main offices are located in Room 282, SUB for Gateway, Room 238 SUB for Media Productions. Phone 432-5168, 432-5178, 432-5750. Advertising 432-3423. Circulation 18,500.

Editor - Kevin Gillese  
 News - Don Truckey  
 Features - Bruce Rout  
 Arts: Keith Layton  
 Sports - Dacrell Semenuk  
 Photo - Grant Wurm  
 Graphics - Craig McLachlan  
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 please come HOME!, Nancy Brown.

## editorial

Edmonton's finest are making media headlines these days with their crackdowns on the world's oldest and likely most undignified profession, prostitution. It's too bad such foolishness still exists in our supposedly enlightened society but until the public gets outraged at the backwardness of our laws governing social behavior, we'll continue to see such idiocy — the use of public funds to try and stop a situation which has always and will always be with us.

The argument against legalizing prostitution has always been, I suppose, that by publicly condoning the selling of one's body, the government of a nation is condoning the debasement of human relationships to the commercial transactions of the marketplace. This is an important consideration, since what we admit publicly does reflect upon us as a people, and by legalizing prostitution we would be admitting there are people — many people — in our society who wish to reduce one human relationship, sex, to the level of supply - and - demand transactions. It is not pleasant to admit this takes place in Canada.

Neither is it pleasant to present a false front to the world, however. Prostitution exists in Canada as it exists in almost every human society. Admitting there is prostitution and legalizing it would serve four useful purposes - It would reduce the real possibility of graft passing through the hands of police officials by removing one of the many temptations facing police. It would allow the government to regulate health standards among prostitutes and likely reduce the amount of disease and, if not, it would at least remove the unsanitary conditions in which most prostitution takes place. It would remove the fear of prosecution from the lives of females who are, after all, merely answering the economic laws which govern so many other transactions within our society. And, finally, for the god-fearin' folk, it would also get the pimps and hookers off the streets.

It is interesting that Europeans, commonly thought of as being "freer" with regards to sex and other such things, have much more liberal laws concerning prostitution than we do. France, recognizing that many men prey off women who prostitute themselves, have made it legal to be a prostitute but illegal to be a pimp (which seems reasonable, doesn't it?). In Germany, they have a government-run corporation which controls prostitution. In Scandinavian countries, it is generally legal to prostitute oneself.

And when we consider our illegal prostitution, perhaps we should ask ourselves another question about how much the government should interfere in the lives of people. If the government interferes when two adults agree to have sex on the condition that one party receive money for the sexual exchange, why should the government be able to interfere and say this is illegal? There is no reason besides public embarrassment that allows such a law to exist. How silly of us. It's time we lived up to our responsibilities. A government is necessary to ensure every person is given as equitable a share of the common wealth as the next person (depending on individual contributions, of course). But as our PM noted, they have no business in the bedrooms (hotel rooms, back alleys, elevators, public parks) of the nation ...

by Kevin Gillese

## YSers subvert society

As I write this letter we are on the eve of the Students' Union elections. Most students have come to a rational and well thought-out decision based on the issues and abilities of each individual and/or slate. However there is one issue which has not been considered which is of grave importance. This is the issue of the toleration (sic) by the University and Students' Union of the presence of communist elements within our free electoral process.

I am speaking of course about the Young Socialists whose slimy propaganda is regularly (sic) imposed on a

most unwilling student body and who every year debase our free elections with their unsightly presence. Just because the Federal and Provincial Governments refuse to root out these subversive elements does not mean we have to.

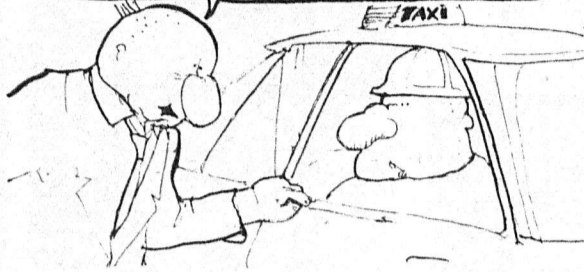
As the intellectual leaders of our great society we must show the way in the never ending struggle against communism. I hope that whichever of the two responsible slates elected (Reynolds or Sparks), that (sic) they will take action on this vital issue.

Darryl Greet  
 Arts 1

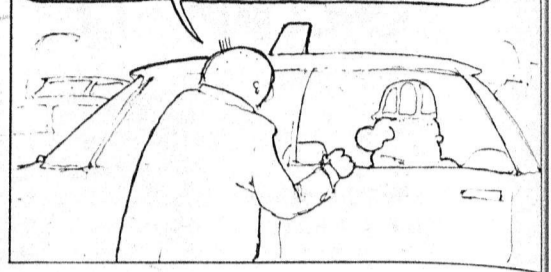
## BUB SLUG by Delaney & Rasmussen

CONCERT TIME FOR BUB AGAIN.

O.K. BUB, THIS IS THE BIG ONE.  
 MADISON SQUARE GARDENS, SOLD-OUT,  
 WITH THE STONES AS WARM-LIP BAND.  
 THIS WILL BE YOUR FINEST HOUR.



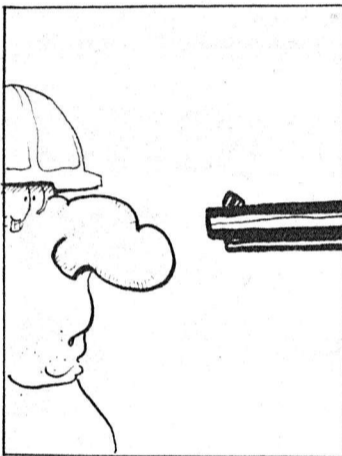
YOUR LAST TEN SINGLES WENT TO THE TOP OF THE CHARTS WITH A BULLET. THEY REALLY WANT YOU OUT THERE BUB!



MADISON SQUARE GARDENS MY GOOD MAN. GET ME THERE IN ONE PLACE AND THERE'LL BE A LITTLE SOMETHING EXTRA IN IT FOR YOU.



HERE'S A LITTLE SOMETHING FOR YOU!



## Commerce screws students

I had the pleasure of watching Commerce Council in action on Tuesday. Commerce Council, for those of you not enrolled in the Faculty of Business Administration, is the policy making body of said faculty.

The following motion was presented to, and carried by, Commerce Council: "That for students in the Faculty of Business Administration and Commerce, the deadline for withdrawing from courses be the end of the fourth week of classes during winter session terms, and approximately one-third of the way through spring and summer courses, and that no withdrawal after the deadline for dropping courses be permitted except for a major cause beyond the student's control, such as extended illness."

Implicit in that motion is that students in Business Administration may no longer obtain a withdrawal-fail rating (WF) after the deadline has passed. Further, this deadline shall apply to all courses for commerce students; that is, courses outside of the faculty.

The reason given for this action was to reduce the time period for students to withdraw. Apparently it was felt that students would have enough time to audit the course in four weeks. It was not felt that feedback from midterm exams was a substantial tool in completing that audit. Further, by applying this regulation to Commerce students for all courses outside of the Faculty (purely an administrative move), the council puts an unfair burden on the shoulders of Commerce students.

Although the General Faculties Council, in its policy manual permits each Faculty to set withdrawal deadlines, it urges

Faculties to have those deadlines after half of the course has been completed. Page 74 of the General Faculties policy manual section (7) subsection (2) reads: "General Faculties council urges Faculties and Schools to adopt withdrawal deadlines beyond the half-way point in the term in the case of one-term courses, and beyond the half-way point in the session in the case of full year courses."

Further, in section F of In-Person Registration Procedures Winter 1976-77 there is a fee remission schedule. According to that schedule, the students withdrawing as late as Feb. 28 in the second semester shall be

refunded forty percent of the instruction and general fees for that semester. This is a full two months after the start of classes. According to the motion passed by Commerce Council students have only until the fourth week of classes to withdraw, a full month before the deadline implicit in the fee remittance schedule. This seems to be in direct conflict with University policy.

Although the decision made by Commerce Council affects primarily commerce students, the precedent being set may not be ignored by students from other faculties.

Werner Nissen  
 Commerce 1

## Stop seal murders

I am writing in the hopes I might appeal to the feelings of anyone who is outraged by the annual Atlantic coast seal hunt.

This brutish "industry" must be adjusted by humane regulations or stopped completely. It is beyond justifications of any kind for it to continue without constant public outcry. Many solutions have been put forward

in the past that look to the practical problems of curtailing the hunt, none so generous as one made recently by a Swiss millionaire, who offered in effect to buy the seals' safety. The commercially valuable seals are victims of fashions most unfortunate whims. My long standing vexation with politicians stands unaltered and reaffirmed by the continuance of the regrettable hunt even after so many years.

I would simply like to ask anyone who feels the time spent in writing a short letter of protest to your member of parliament or to the minister of fisheries, Romeo LeBlanc, is not too much to ensure the arrest of the most ridiculous and nationally embarrassing barbarism to do so. Written public protest is often the only way we can express ourselves in this democracy of ours, so please do it, if not for the seals which get clubbed into insensibility, do it for the heightening of your own political consciousness.

Jeffrey Wildman

## Translation

I am puzzled by Ken Reynolds' allegation that the Spark slate has violated SU election bylaws. Surely the wall poster in HUB stating that "The team of that which is produced by a dragging muffler kisses the ass of the warlord Loughheed" cannot be attributed to Spark's political machine?

Rather, this is the work of a few bad elements who are trying to slander the true heirs of our beloved Len Zoeteman.

Chi'ang Ching  
 Fine Arts