

Another satisfied reader!!!

Dear Mr. Gateway (and Peter M.),

I'm glad you forgive the Engineers, Peter. We'd just like you to know that we in engineering forgive the Gateway too. We wouldn't dream of responding with "violence and aggression" as you claimed we would in Jan. 29th's "Second Wind" column.

We understand that those who work for Gateway are somewhat more narrow in their morality and more limited in intellectual abilities than most — and we don't blame them for it... even if the Gateway did "cover" Engineering Week by distorting and omitting facts, quoting out of context, devoting more space to the "letters" section for those of non-engineering viewpoints, and (last, but not least) resorting to emotional, "rallying cry" type arguments in their editorials instead of employing logic. At least they finally admitted it (in Jan. 29th's "Second Wind") and we can't fault them for holding an opinion.

What we are concerned with is use of the supposedly objective campus newspaper which we fund to promulgate political viewpoints for their own sake and not as "news." We are annoyed as hell at the cheap bastards who are doing this... but not at the Gateway staff — they just aren't capable of it.

Will Bauer
Electrical Engineering III
and 102,321 others
P.S. (Q) Why did Alison Thomson act in the MED SHOW?

"Killers" must be stopped

What Canada needs is a real shooting war, with real guns, real bullets and real casualties. And we could draft the over 200 people at the U of A who seem to be just itching for a fight.

That is, the 210 entered in the Assassins game, a new diversion from sanity and respect for life that gives one to wonder what happened to progressive, elitist universities.

Consider the growing prevalence of rape, and the attitude of mind that allows people to consider the sexual abuse of women and children to be amusing, or legitimate subject matter for "erotic" material. Consider the popularity of pornography glorifying the beating and killing of women.

It's this same queer, infectious love for brutality and death that prompts these simply stupid university students across Canada

(A) She had taken the Hippocratic oath.

Ed. Note: At present, we have a glut of 34 letters, so we're sorry we didn't print yours, Will, but we did print more than 20 related to Engineering Week. The viewpoints printed were in rough proportion to those received.

The program for the Med Show, where Alison Thomson's

Frat-ricide irks reader

I'd like to respond to the letter in Tuesday's Gateway (Feb. 3) which referred to women's fraternities. The three students who wrote the letter seem to have a lot of questions and obviously don't really know what the fraternity system is all about. In spite of this, they proceeded to make several assumptions based on an event in which a group of fraternity women happened to participate.

Though it isn't so apparent to most people, the fraternity systems stands for much more than "friendship and good times." Any fraternity member will vouch for that if questioned, but few people are so interested that they want to know. They prefer to accept the stereotyped image that fraternities have and only want to hear about the good times. Sure we have good times, but that isn't all we do and our money isn't just for those good times.

name appeared, is prepared in November and contains the names of anyone who might possibly have anything to do with the show. In point of fact, Ms. Thomson had nothing to do with the Med Show, as either a participant or an observer.

If you want us to return your share of the Gateway subsidy — 67¢ per year — you're welcome to pick it up anytime, Will.



If you're really interested in what fraternity life has to offer, then take the time to find out. If you're not interested, don't bother, but don't insult us by your accusations based on the activities of a few individuals.

Our fraternities are made up of individuals. The women who formed the kickline did so because they chose to as individuals. They happen to be members of the same fraternity. But don't extrapolate their actions to their fraternity. And don't make judgments until you know all the facts.

Ramona Rea, President
Pi Beta Phi Fraternity
Science



— in Calgary and Toronto, for instance — to lurk around the campus looking for victims to murder.

What's next? Perhaps these over-aged juveniles will tire of playing with darts (which, by the way, are not as 'harmless' as the game's organizers think), and go on to something like kidnapping.

What the hell: even the engineers outlawed kidnapping during their Queen contest; surely the organizers of Assassins can outgross the ESS.

Fight to save our GFC committees

Will the termination of five General Faculties Committees occur on Monday, February 8?

Not if student and faculty GFC members alike still value input into housing and food services, conference funds, computing facilities and policies, campus radio and television and parking appeals.

The choice is placed before the GFC to transfer these con-

cerns to the University's V-P (Academic) and V-P (Facilities and Services) since the proposers feel these areas "are not specifically GFC policy matters and that, therefore, they are inappropriate to GFC responsibility."

A reading of *The Universities Act* shows that the GFC is empowered to "make recommendations to the board with respect to... campus planning, a building

program, the budget, the regulation of residences and dining halls... and any other matters considered by the council to be of interest to the university..."

In light of the recent interest and proposals to restructure some committees as GFC committees (for example, to put tenant association reps on H & FS) this proposal seems particularly inappropriate. Housing and computing facilities issues won't disappear this easily. There are no assurances such issues will be dealt with more effectively in the new structure. In fact, we do not know much about the "representative advisory committees" to be struck by the University Vice-Presidents.

The present structure at least affords assurances that approved GFC nominating procedures are followed and that a recognized body on campus can make informed recommendations to the Board of Governors.

I would urge that this proposal be defeated at the upcoming meeting.

Darrell Rankin
VP (Academic)



Aspidistra

by Alison Thomson

"Education! I was always led to suppose that no educated person ever spoke of notepaper, and yet I hear poor Fanny asking Sadie for notepaper. What is this education? Fanny talks about mirrors and mantelpieces, handbags and perfume, she takes sugar in her coffee, has a tassel on her umbrella, and I have no doubt that if she is ever fortunate enough to catch a husband, she will call his father and mother, Father and Mother. Will the wonderful education she is getting make up to the unhappy brute for all these endless pinpricks? Fancy hearing one's wife talk about notepaper — the irritation!!"

Uncle Matthew in
The Pursuit of Love
by Nancy Mitford

Admirable sentiments; nonetheless, a vast number of greater pinpricks are omitted.

People who split infinitives without knowing they are doing so. People who do know they are doing so and take gleeful pleasure in breaking the rules of usage. People who think splitting compound verbs is splitting an infinitive and elaborately avoid doing it.

People who say hopefully when they mean "I hope." People who wouldn't understand if one were to explain to them for several years what is wrong with doing so.

People who say "Emmonton," "Culgry" and Alberda."

People who apparently believe one "endorsates" things rather than "endorses" them. I refer, of course, to the use of the word endorsement.

People who labor under the delusion that it is somehow more elegant to use the word "myself" than to say "me." This one is a particular foible of would-be politicians.

The use of the word aggravate when irritate is meant. This one is particularly offensive since it ignores the distinct and useful meaning of a perfectly good word and creates a duplicate of one already in existence.

Perceptive readers will have noticed that these pinpricks are not the same as those in the Mitford quotation; hers, not to put too fine a point on it, are strictly class-oriented pinpricks. The ones I had added are simply cases of correctness.

And clearly my points of irritation are much more important. There are plenty of people about defending class distinctions, and in any case few Canadians are sensitive to the sorts of distinctions Mitford is pointing out here, and in her more serious and famous essay on the subject.

There are, however, far fewer people maintaining the right when it comes to grammar, style and usage. The people who ought, most of all, to have a respect for, and love of, the English language, those who write professionally, are often the greatest perpetrators of the errors.

For example, for an extraordinarily high number of errors and infelicities while saying rather little, see the *Journal's* William Thorsell.

Nitpicking aside, these things are important. Sloppy and inexact use of language ultimately means less meaning, and certainly less beauty in language. It is to be deplored.

Don't crumple queens

Re: "Poster rippers: we're no vigilantes."

Who are you trying to kid? You can't expect anyone to believe that, in tearing down the engineering posters in CAB, you were acting within the confines of the Code of Student Behavior, or that the removal of posters without the consent of either the building coordinator or the owner(s) of the posters is not an antisocial activity.

Imagine the KAOS which would reign if anyone were allowed to remove/destroy

posters or any other property belonging to others simply because of some personal objection to them. You just as surely can't expect anyone to believe that the removal of the posters was not meant as both a comment on and a censure of the morals of the engineers and all others who participate in and enjoy the activities of Engineering Week as it is. You can only expect people to come to the conclusion that, among other things, you are precisely "vigilantes of campus morality."

I personally find your moralistic behavior objectionable in any form, but particularly when it is also vigilantist behavior. I suggest that you stick to constructive methods of furthering your cause. Anyone can detract from the activities of others, but only an exceptional few can improve on them.

Ian Goodacre
Engineering IV

Must get the money

In reply to the Gateway editorial "The Real Reason": is this logic? — to rationalize the proposed SU fee increase to a vanishing point? When the students have to examine a matter concerning their own corporate welfare, then it looks like the body is trying to unscrew the head (or is it screw up?).

I mean we need a bit of dignity and remember, the SU will represent us in the 1980's. You don't need fifty reasons to vote on a referendum. Fuck these crybabies who have more than they can spend and vote 'yes' for any fee increase that can help our Students' Union.

Neil Young
Canadian Studies

News slant is showing

I must protest your questionable and unethical "objective" coverage of the upcoming Students' Union election in the Feb. 3rd issue of the Gateway. If I had wished to read a Soper Slate pamphlet I could have picked one up at the BACUS office.

Sara Comish

Join the elite Clothe the naked Enrich the Gateway

Here's how: just bring your \$7.50 to the Gateway and you'll receive one of our limited edition 'If it happens on campus...it's news to us' T-shirts. White on black, all sizes. Room 282 SUB.

Remember - only 297 shopping days until Christmas!