

EDITORIAL

Oiler boredom

The 80-game NHL exhibition schedule is now underway and we all can now look ahead (again) to the agonizing six-month ritualistic endeavor necessary to eliminate Pittsburgh, New Jersey, Toronto, Los Angeles, and Hartford. This season, unfortunately, should be more boring for Oiler fans. As the Oilers become better, their regular season becomes more superfluous.

The regular season used to mean something to the Oilers because they always had something to prove. Three years ago they were a young, cocky team that set new standards for goal scoring prowess, but could not get past the lowly LA Kings in the playoffs. A lack of maturity was deemed the culprit.

Two seasons ago, they found their maturity and lived up to their potential only to be uncerimoniously erased in the final by a pugnacious bunch of Long Island back checkers who knew who to pick up wingers. A lack of playoff experience was the excuse.

Last year, of course, they did put it all together and wrenched Lord Stanley's fabled piece of silverware from the Isles in five games.

But now, what's left to conquer? What will the Oiler hockey fan now look forward to? The Oilers used to have to spend 80 games proving to us, and to themselves, that they were not choke artists. But now that's all changed. It's not as much fun anymore to pay \$14 plus to see the Oilers toy with the Kings, Jets, Canucks and Flames ad nauseum.

The Oilers have placed themselves in a position of going nowhere but down. This is not to condemn perfection. Anybody who suffered through the "almost, but not quite good enough" years of the Montreal Expos will agree with that. Sure, it will be interesting to see if the Oilers can win the Cup again, but that does not start until next April. What do we do in the meantime?

Pass the stale popcorn.

Pass the over-priced Koubasa.

Pass the No-Doz.

Dean Bennett

*Ketchup stains on the tie are
Anathema to the YUPPIE spirit, as that
Rambunctious cheer echoes across the land:
"Egg Foo Young, Rolex watches, and two diamond
Needles in every sound system, hey, what the
Hell, let's go all the way, here's to lasers, and
Uranus with all its moons so hairless, and video
Naughty films, and dirty limericks, with
Toenail clippings piling high on the off-white plush."*

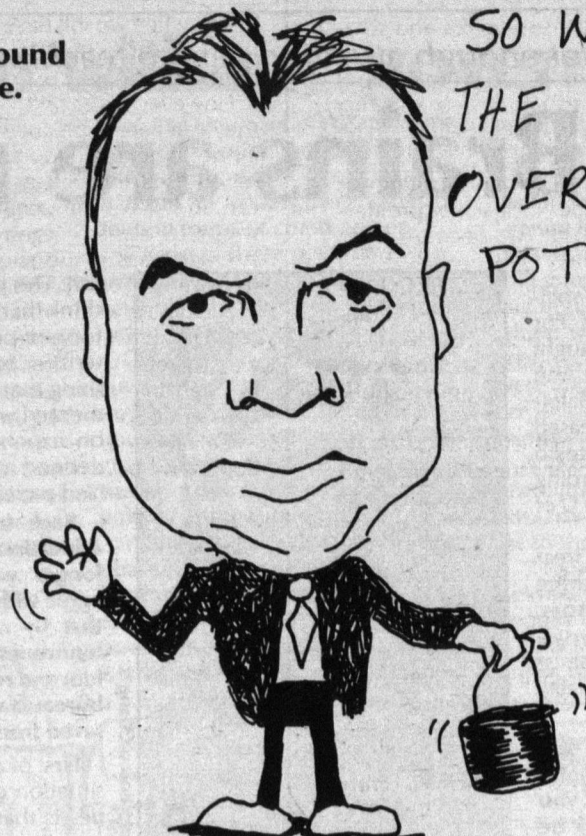
Important Staff Meeting This Thursday (October 25)

Purpose: to discuss the Gateway constitution, and to study Gateway autonomy.

Gateway staffers are invited to familiarize themselves with our new constitution and to join a committee to study the feasibility of autonomy. All Gateway editors and staffers are urged to attend!!

The Meeting will start 4 pm sharp in room 282 SUB. Please attend!!

News Item:
Premier Hatfield found with pot in suitcase.



CLIFFORD '84, GATEWAY

SO WHAT'S
THE BIG DEAL
OVER A LITTLE
POT?

LETTERS TO THE EDITORS

CFS and losers

Another CFS referendum?

Ain't that just what we need? Maybe we can make this an annual or maybe even a semi-annual event.

It seems to me that democracy is no longer what it was supposed to be. It used to be that losers of an election (or referendum) would either crawl back into the woodwork or accept defeat and join the majority. No so within the U of A SU! The losing side always has enough pull to swing another referendum, which only restarts the cycle.

In the last referendum, 75% of us did not vote. This does not mean that we give the SU Executive free rein to waste our mandate, or to waste funds that we are forced to contribute to in the form of SU fees.

I have had it up to here with the SU executives who only care about their term of office and to hell with the future. Let's face it guys, whichever side wins in February, the losers will kick up enough fuss to question the result.

I have a suggestion; if at least 40% of the student body does not give enough interest to vote on the CFS issue in February, then how about dropping the issue unconditionally for at least another three years, by which time I will have left.

Peter Lw-Hing
Cmput Science II

Books to kill

Book prices seem incredibly high these days, and for the average student buying new textbooks is equivalent to being the victim of highway robbery.

We are, of course, provided with an alternate solution. We may sell our textbooks from past years and/or purchase second-hand books. This can result in tremendous savings for the student.

This practice however, is often not possible, as some professors continually change or update their required reading list, making books used in previous years unsaleable, and forcing new students to purchase only brand new books.

Of course, students want the best quality education possible, as well as the most recent information. It is

necessary to occasionally improve the reading material required for a class, but professors should think carefully before they make a change.

- Is the additional material in the new text significant enough [to justify] the purchase of the book, or could the old text be supplemented with lectures covering that material?
- Do other professors offering the same course make use of the text? (This would be an indication of its future saleability).
- Is the retail cost of the book an amount that one can reasonably expect a student to pay (given that this is only one of many books a student must purchase).

In the present poor economic conditions, students need to cut corners wherever possible. Every effort should be made to help students purchase texts at the lowest possible cost. The cooperation of professors is required in order to make second-hand book purchases possible.

I hope professors will consider these points when they assign readings next term.

If this is a problem that you have experienced, please drop by the Students' Union office and fill out a grievance form.

Kerri Kamra
SU Academic Commissioner

We need vodka

In reply to S. Schneider's Oct. 18 letter. You seem to have read the letter but missed the point. My letter regarded the spread of nuclear technology and weapons as a priority; you swept this point away and deftly returned to the old, favorite topic of the U.S.-Soviet conflict.

My letter stated the mechanisms of command control at the military and political levels were at work to defuse any tense situation and you swept that away by simply saying "huge command and control systems increase the possibility of error," no chance of say, increasing the possibility to detect an error thus decreasing the chances of error?

The KAL affair you mentioned and subsequent "paranoid reactions" didn't extend to economic affairs. The U.S. happily traded its wheat, approximately 600 million metric tons; we Canadians con-

The Gateway

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Editor in Chief: Gilbert Bouchard
News Editors: Suzette C. Chan, Neal Watson
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Staff this issue were: Mrs. Receveur's bundle of joy Brian, Mrs. Teplysk's little dickens Don, Mrs. Chang's bumpkins Bosco, Mrs. Pendzich's darling Eva, Mrs. Boyd's little devil Dave, the apple of Mrs. Grevers eye Ann, Mrs. Bennett's tyke Dean, Mrs. Evans' angel from heaven Mike, Mrs. Bird's sweetiekins Doug, Mrs. Alton's bouncing boy Bruce, and an adopted bovine named Markie.