

I have worked on The Gateway for three years: since September as news editor I have done my best to help put out what we consider a "relevant newspaper" that is attempting to examine and question the basic contradictions in our society. All this though has been done with the background of considerable friction between the Gateway staff and the Students' Union executive.

But tonight I am going on strike. I will return only when Students' Council replaces the "puppet editor" which Personnel Board selected with the Gateway's choice, Ron Yakimchuk.

This year the Gateway did some good things, some bad things, and some mediocre things; but for every issue that we put out we sincerely believed in what we were trying to say.

Bob Beal and I both wrote editorials which various executive members at various times were unhappy with, to say the least. But it seems inconceivable that McKenzie, Biltek, and Co. would dare to stoop to such low politicking so shortly before the election. But perhaps I should not be so surprised by this latest move.

The Gateway editor was chosen well before the candidates ever stepped into the Gateway office for the screening session. The executive obviously did not want an editor -- they wanted a mouthpiece -- fortunately or unfortunately they found it in the person of Ms. Terri Jackson.

Elsie Ross
News Editor

Students:

This may be considered an explanation of why I did not support the Personnel Board recommendation that Terri Jackson be editor of the Gateway for the coming year rather than the recommendation of the staff of the Gateway. The Gateway staff is made up of volunteer students who put out the paper for you, the students of this campus. Although I, like many of you, do not always agree with the editorial and news content of the Gateway, I feel the wishes of the people who provide this service should be respected. In appointing a person who in several years on campus has not seen fit to contribute anything to the paper there has been a flagrant disregard, for the people who spend many hours of their time putting out the Gateway.

If you feel the Gateway can be improved I am sure you would find yourself welcome at the Gateway offices. In the present elections I urge you to consider your choice of candidates before voting and I am sure you will feel, as I do, that there can be an improvement over the executive which has held office in the past year. There are viable alternatives who do not support this type of railroading and they can use your support.

Howard Christensen
Engineering Rep.
on Students' Council

I have worked on the Gateway for three years. In that time I have seen what it takes to make a Gateway editor. It takes hours of time and devotion to the paper; it takes the ability to do the scut work along with your fellow staffers; it takes days of endless worry and headaches; it takes a feeling of community involvement (after all, this is a community newspaper); it takes intelligence and a lot of physical abuse. It takes all this and much more to make a Gateway editor. If Ms. Jackson thinks that she has all of these qualifications, then why wasn't she up here three years ago? Why does she want to start from the top? And if she cares so much about her appointment to the editorship of The Gateway, why wasn't she at the council meeting that put her into this position? Somehow, I don't really think she cares all that much about it. Well, she may not care about it, but I do. As long as Ms. Jackson and her cohorts reign supreme on MY newspaper, I refuse to help her. I support my fellow staffers in their strike and I sincerely hope that council revokes their decision before it is too late.

Beth Nilsen

The Students' Union Executive has called for new blood in the Gateway. I call for new blood on the Executive. Let's not re-elect the idiots who have done nothing for YOU all year. We have two good possibilities: McRae or Riskin. Make next year's Executive work for you.

Wendy Yurchuk
Education Rep
on Students' Council

The reality is that Gateway is a necessity. Any student function can not possibly hope to succeed without the communication Gateway does provide. There is nothing to be gained for the students by antagonizing the Gateway staff as Students' Council has done. We believe that when Council approved over 2:1 Personnel Board's recommendation for Gateway Editor in Chief they took the same kind of extreme, unreasonable action they believe Gateway is guilty of. There are more beneficial proposals for Gateway that would definitely have enabled the desired goals to be achieved. They have ignored these possibilities in their haste to claim success in ensuring "responsible Gateway reporting". Consequently they have acted in an intolerably arrogant fashion.

Yours Truly
Ann McRae.

Dear Editor,

As director of CKSR, I am in full support of the Gateway's strike until an investigation of the editorship question is carried out by some neutral group. I feel that there are many undercurrents in the matter which should be fully investigated before a final decision is reached on the editorship of the paper. For one thing I feel that because the editorship was advertised as a paid position, any applicant who has never been on the staff of that paper ought to question her motives very closely. I also find it strange for the personnel board to recommend a candidate who had absolutely no support from the staff of the paper in their election of editor. I find it even stranger that council would ratify such a recommendation by such a large majority.

It is obvious that there has been animosity between council and Gateway over the past eight months, perhaps justified, perhaps not. These things are irrelevant now. The main thing now is to make sure that freedom of the press is protected, and to this end I believe an investigation is fully justified. Council should publish full justification of the matter proving that they are operating in the best interests of the students.

Any councillor or executive member who so desires may make a public announcement on Radio as to why this decision was reached, and any member of Gateway staff may make a statement as to why council made the wrong decision.

CKSR's services are available to any person wishing to make a public statement on the matter, and our services for the next few days will be devoted to coverage of this issue and the upcoming Student's Union elections next Friday.

Yours truly,
R. McLeish
Director, CKSR

The Making of an Editor, 1972
(Biltek et al., Edmonton, 1972)
price: thirty pieces of silver

Well, I had a book review all ready for this issue, and it was a fairly interesting one, I think. I understand that council's choice for a mouthpiece stated at the screening session the other day that one of the few things she like about the present Gateway was my reviews, so maybe even she will be sorry to see that I cannot let this one run.

Speaking of Ms. Jackson . . . I remember sitting next to her in a Geology 205 course in 1969 and mentioning that I was News Editor for Gateway, and she told me that she had worked for newspapers in the U.S. of A. At that time, and several times since then, I asked her why she didn't come over and lend a hand, since we have always had trouble getting experienced staff. She never had time, it seemed, while she was doing her make-up year so she could start her M.A.

Funny thing, is, I always thought an MA candidate had a hell of a lot more to do than a make-up year student, but somehow she seems to have found time now to step in at the top, without coming up through the ranks.

Well, yesterday Ryerson press sold out to the States, today the Student's Union and who knows, pretty soon it may be Governor Lougheed. If this strikes you as a short review, it's because I really didn't like the book much.

sid stephen

CKSR is airing
interviews with the
Students' Union
Presidential candidates at
the following times:

Tonight:
7 p.m. - Ann McRae
8:30 p.m. - Dave Biltek

Wednesday:
7 p.m. - Mark Priegart
8:30 p.m. - Jerry Riskin

Thursday:
7 p.m. - Silly Slate

CKSR can be heard in
Lister Hall as well as in the
following lounges: Arts,
Tory, Engineering, SUB and
Education.