

letters

worms

Do you have worms?
For the first time this year, I decided to buy my lunch at the cafeteria in CAB. Since I'm on weight watcher's, a salad was my choice. However there was added protein in that salad...a big fat juicy worm. So much for the diet. One consolation though, I got my 15 cents back. Gaining weight is no longer a problem, since food is no longer appealing. Are you a campus salad eater???

Yvonne Harosym

gateway

A recent letter to the Gateway stated that the ex-Gateway staff had a right to choose their own editor. What nonsense!

It is asinine to suggest that the majority of fee paying students wanted a newspaper that was beyond the control of the student elected representatives. The fact that the ex-staff tried to grab this power of cliquish autonomy only belies their stated idea of student democracy. But, of course, the ex-staff were never noted for consistency, honesty, or even literacy.

The only right the ex-staff had with respect to the student supplied facilities was the right to quit, which they did after throwing a tantrum and spewing out a few final editions of garbage and thereby wasting a few hundred dollars more of our student funds.

I applaud Gerry Riskin's success at cutting out the ex-staff rot. That perversion was costing students in excess of \$50,000 a year. (The advertising revenues exist because of the students not the ex-staff after all.) After enduring with disgust the Tim Christian facade it was refreshing to have had a SU president stand up against the crude, inbred shallow, immature and self-appointed ex-staff.

Furthermore, if Terri Jackson cannot do better than produce a paper that amounts to free advertising for her social and political views with no weighty reasoned articles in opposition (for the sake of intelligence rather than a manipulating emotionalism) then she should also be fired and replaced.

Let's have a quality paper that is a credit to a university population.

David Day
Faculty of Law

tasteless waste?

I was walking to my next class in P126 from Tory. As I was walking up the sidewalk to the north east entrance of the Physics building, I noticed a crew paving the cement sidewalks.

The sidewalks are in excellent condition now so why are they being paved? This seems like a gross waste of money to me. Could you investigate this matter and answer my questions?

David Atkinson
Agriculture

An inquiry Wednesday to the office of campus development sent me to the project manager of the department of physical plant, who in turn referred me to the director of physical plant, who in turn referred me to the outside plant engineer, who sent me back to (you guessed it) the office of campus development.

There, Blake Pratt, assistant project manager, explained that the area concerned is considered as a courtyard rather than as a plain sidewalk.

The plans had originally called for a rough concrete base to be covered by a layer of tile. Pratt said that as an economy measure, asphalt with colored vinyl strips is being substituted for the more expensive tile.

The use of the tile or asphalt seems from Pratt's account to be mainly esthetic. They cut the glare caused by wide expanses of concrete, "soften" and "make more interesting" the courtyard space.

As to whether this is a "gross waste of money", I guess that's a matter of taste. For my money, I don't find asphalt that much more esthetic than concrete.

tj

add quality

This short note concerns itself with the quality of your advertising. Recently two ads have appeared in the paper which I certainly hope are not indicative of the kind of advertising which will be accepted by the Gateway in months to come.

In an earlier issue, an ad appeared requesting female bodies to apply for work in a strip joint downtown (I don't know which one nor do I care.) Is the Gateway that hard up for advertising that it need accept such blatantly, offensively, sexist material?

The second ad concerns itself with the ad on the back page of the most recent Gateway. For a student newspaper, advertising should be a necessary evil. Is it really necessary to accept an ad of this nature? If the S.H. Parker Company is so confident about the quality of its merchandise, surely it can produce an ad which does not commercially exploit what is supposedly, (although no one can never be sure these days) that most

meaningful, intimate experience, sex.

The reason why I address this letter to you, Terri, is that, as the editor of the Gateway, you are ultimately responsible for the contents therein. You mentioned in a recent editorial that censorship (presumably including that of the ads) always takes the holier than thou attitude that people must be spared reading or hearing something "for their own good".

Personal growth as human beings is one reason why (I hope) most people come to the University. The campus newspapers hopefully support this thesis. Believe me, Terri, when I say there is a difference between the particular offensiveness of a pizza ad which is merely aesthetically displeasing, and a strip joint which, by the very attitude it fosters, makes a mockery of all those things Shelley talked about in his poem "Prometheus" where he said that man should be "...good, great, joyous, beautiful and free".

Hardly qualities fostered by strip-joint ads and an envisaged competition between the sexual act and a stereo receiver. You talk about freedom; I talk about the freedom to make a choice. Since you have unilateral control over what goes into the Gateway, the "freedom to differ" means everything to you, and very little to the people who disagree with you. You tell me that personally you find those ads offensive. Then do something about it. Be discriminating. Your present advertising gives satisfaction only to bad taste.

Dennis Zomerschoe
Education

enumeration an accounting

As an enumerator for this election, perhaps I can clarify a few observations that Mr. Leeson made. Students in residence or boarding somewhere else had to be residing in that place since September 1. The booths were installed to make lighter the task of finding this out rather than going to ever so many doors.

Naturally, a great number of students don't arrive in residence until Labour Day. If you consider this unfair, apply to the Repeals Board which is a Government organization set up for this purpose. The students can vote by proxy; that is, their parents vote for them in the parents' constituency.

Considering the "means" and "on your own"... It is customary to ask all students this since it establishes whether the student is self supporting and therefore independant, or supported by and dependant on his parents, in which case he is to vote in their constituency, by proxy if he is not there on election day. No votes are lost.

I don't see how this can be a direct discrimination against Mr. Leeson and the NDP campaign.

E. Zalus
Arts 4

counter point

staff comment

attention

would-be travellers

Monday night's student council meeting sported a practice that is becoming an all too common feature of council meetings, the closed session. It appeared to be more of a mud slinging marathon with several members of council retreating periodically to the outer chambers. Battle scarred they would stagger out of the meeting shaking their heads and moaning.

The issue being discussed was the charter flight proposal. Exactly what happened I don't know but when press was readmitted a motion was made (see Charter Flights page 1) And Trans Ocean Travel appeared victorious.

Wardair was passed over in favor of a contractor who will try to obtain the services of an overseas airline Britannia Airways. The reason that Trans Ocean won the contract may at first glance appear to be fitting and just, they offered the students union more money per seat than Wardair. Granted money is an important factor but what about the customer. No contract has yet been signed with Britannia so no price per seat has been verified. If it is the same price per seat as Wardair is offering then nothing is to be gained by the customer. In fact the customer will get less for his money. All of Wardair's flights are luxury ones offering Champagne, extra stewardesses, and flight bags.

Wardair is a first rate, dependable airline based in Edmonton with a record of never having left anyone stranded. The money spent on Wardair will remain in Canada providing more jobs for Canadians.

As students, we are the potential customers of this service and the ones who should be concerned. If the customer pays the same price for either airline then certainly he has the right to the luxury rather than passing a fistfull of dollars on to the Students' union.

I do not wish to cast aspersions on the characters of either Trans Ocean Travel or Britannia Airways but we do know considerably more about the operations and success of Wardair. The charter concept is not new to the U of A. It was attempted in the past with another economy airline resulting in a fiasco.

My suggestions: that the charter program be established utilizing local resources, dealing with as few companies as possible and keep our money at home. Perhaps the students union will make less money but I am confident that Wardair will back up their promises.

The decision has been made but it can be reversed. You as students and potential customers can bring about this reversal. There has been a lot of talk about apathy on campus but I don't think this is the fault of the students. Seldom do you have an opportunity to know or understand the issues that concern you.

If you are in a faculty of 2,000 students, your student council representative can hardly be expected to phone you. You MAY phone or WRITE him however and tell him how you stand on certain issues. Granted this is difficult if you don't know what the issues are. So when you phone your rep. ask for an end to closed sessions of council. You have a right to know the issues and the Gateway can be your pipeline, providing we aren't locked out of the meetings. Better yet attend the meetings personally.

It is your money and you can control how it is spent if you want to. There would be no teaching posts, no campus expansion and no student union if there were no students. You needn't be forgotten or overlooked.

Contact your rep. and tell him to take another look at charter flights from your point of view and to vote against further closed sessions of student council. This is YOUR university.

George W. Mantor

Letters to the editor on any topic are welcome, but they must be signed. Keep them short (about 200 words) unless you wish to make a complex argument. Letters should not exceed 800 words.

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