

# Tell the Board \$696 too much

At its meeting Tuesday, March 31st, the Board of Governors (Finance Committee) passed a motion recommending a 15% increase in tuition fees for students in 1981/82. In view of the fact that the Government will not announce the operating grant until the 15th of April, and that from every indication (including direct quotes from the minister) that the operating committee is recommending that the Board use students as a tool to guarantee sufficient funding.

Should this motion go through at the Board of Governors meeting (9:00 a.m., Room 315, University Hall, Friday, April 10th), tuition fees would jump from the \$606 paid this year to \$696.00 next year. Considering the increasing gap between student summer earnings (especially with the lack of jobs available through Government make-work programs and in industry) and the costs of a year at university (including housing, food and transportation), the proposed increase in tuition will place an extra financial burden on students planning to return to school next fall.

We know of the Finance Committee position only because it was leaked to the Students' Union. A decision of this kind cannot be made honestly without consideration of how it will affect students.

I encourage you to become aware of this situation, and to take a stand on it. Make your voice heard.

Here are some suggestions:

1) Attend the Board meeting, Friday at 9:00 a.m. at University Hall. It's important that the Board see that students in every faculty are concerned.

2) Get your faculty association to pass a motion against the 15% increase and send it to the Board c/o John Schlosser, University Hall.

3) Call the Board of Governors or your MLA (MLAs' phone numbers are available at 427-2711).

If you would like more information, or would like to help distribute pamphlets, stop by my office or give me a call at 432-4236.

Lisa Walter  
SU vp external  
Arts III

## Prepare to meet maker

Take a look at your body. Are you one of the people that deceives themselves into thinking that it will last forever? It may be easier just to avoid the question completely; "After all I have got lots of time before I die." But is this true? Who really holds the power over life and death, and what happens when physical life ceases?

The Bible says God holds the power and that it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment (*Hebrews 9:27*).

Are you ready to meet your Maker? The Scripture says Jesus died for every sin ever committed, but to escape the judgment we must individually appropriate His work on the cross by a personal and deliberate act of faith.

You may argue this until the day you die, but remember, you argue not with me, but with the words of the living and almighty God who is returning to our planet soon!

Reg Barrow

## Sign up here for a real challenge

Brace yourself. Here comes another spiel about the wonders of volunteering your time and energy to a worthy cause. Even though you have probably been thoroughly indoctrinated with scads of pro-involvement propaganda, I'd like to try again and encourage you to consider becoming a leader for Students' Orientation Services (SORSE).

Students' Orientation Services used to be Freshman Orientation Seminars (FOS). Over the years the program has grown and expanded — this year even the name changed. What has increased most significantly is the delegate demand for our programs. More and more, new

students are looking for help via orientation (in other words - SORSE). To meet these demands, we need more leaders (i.e. surviving U of A students) to help new students adjust to university life.



Leading is a diverse job that is both challenging and fun. It provides an opportunity to learn more about the U of A and to also help a needy fresh in the process. Involvement with SORSE is also

an excellent chance to meet many new people: SORSE leaders have been known to come from all sorts of places, and there is something for everyone who is interested in the program. The commitment is flexible and chances are you could really enjoy being a SORSE leader.

SORSE is having a recruitment and information social on Wednesday, April 8th, from 3 - 8 p.m. in room 270A SUB. Any interested students are welcome to attend. Drop by to find out more about SORSE or sign up for the summer of 1981. I look forward to seeing you there.

Dawn Noyes  
Director  
Students' Orientation Services



# Aspidistra

by Alison Thomson

"There will be no revolution in England while there are aspidistras in the windows."

For those of you who have been poised on the edge of your seats waiting to find out why this column was called Aspidistra — the explanation:

George Orwell, in a relatively obscure and early novel, *Keep the Aspidistra Flying* made the aspidistra (a house plant) the symbol of keeping one's courage up in the face of adversity, of remaining cheerful when confronted with gnawing poverty.

This motif occurs elsewhere; Orwell's hero reads about the starving carpenter who pawns everything whilst starving, but keeps his aspidistra in *The Ragged Trousered Philanthropists*, a book which has been called the tract that won the 1945 election for the British Labour Party.

"The aspidistra, flower of England," says Orwell. So, I thought, a flower that stood for almost quixotic optimism would be an appropriate title for a column which was, in some sense, to succeed last year's "Quixote."

Like that column, mine has tried to reach a balance between those subjects of interest to me. While the legislature was in session last fall, I tried to discuss subjects often ignored by those reporters obsessed with the energy wars. I have also, to some small extent, indulged my interest in British politics.

So before I thank the members of the academy, I should like to say that whoever else may or may not have learned anything from this column, I have discovered a great deal.

I'd like to thank all my information sources for their never-ending readiness to answer a long series of probably naive questions. I'd like to thank the students who took the trouble to write in response to the columns; most of the responses were thought-provoking and thoughtful, and more than made up for the abusiveness of the minority. My favorite letter was the one which defended me from the nefarious charge of another letter-writer calling me (horrors!) a socialist.

I'd like to thank the Alberta Tories, whose stupidity and insensitivity provided a never-ending supply of topics.

And finally I'd like to thank the *Gateway* staff, insofar as any of them aren't included in my thanks to the Tories, for the complete freedom they gave me.

It's been a privilege and a challenge. Thank you all.

## Gays overcome myths

It was a pleasure to read Peter Michalshyn's editorial of Thursday, March 26, and find a healthy attitude towards homosexuality. It was with a groan of "Oh, shit" that I read Brent Kassain's little piece where he so clearly showed that HE was buying the "old bigoted line" spoken of by Peter. Some people insist on believing the line that gay folk have chosen to be homosexual. As much of a choice is involved in "choosing" homosexuality as is involved in "choosing" heterosexuality. There is none.

People simply grow up and in that ordeal of growing up discover their basic sexuality. An element of choice then enters the picture when a homosexual person comes to realize that that is what he is. Heterosexuals never have to make a choice of accepting who they are sexually, because they are the status quo. Homosexuals do have to choose, though because they have grown up being

taught the line that they are sick, perverted, and degenerate. Then on making the discovery that they are those people who are supposedly damned by God and damned by society, they become aware of the great discrepancy between the reality of themselves and the myth of who they supposedly are.

Herein lies the choice. Gay people choose to reject the negative programming they have been fed, and choose to accept themselves as human beings with just as much right to enjoy life as anyone else.

Yes, pro-homosexuals are taking a 100 percent rotten, grade D way of thinking and grinding it up. And then they're throwing it out with the rest of the garbage that intolerant persons with narrow-minded prejudices try feeding to anyone gullible enough to swallow it.

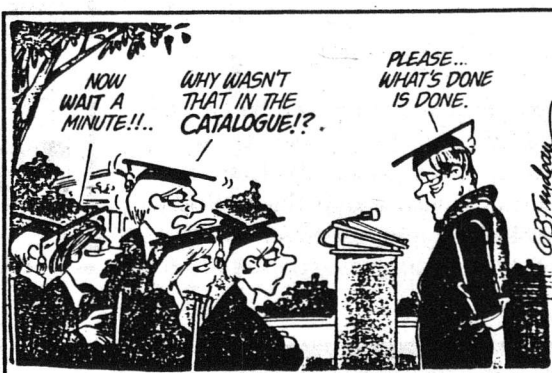
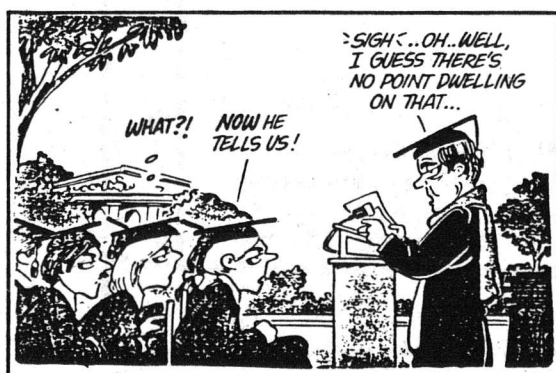
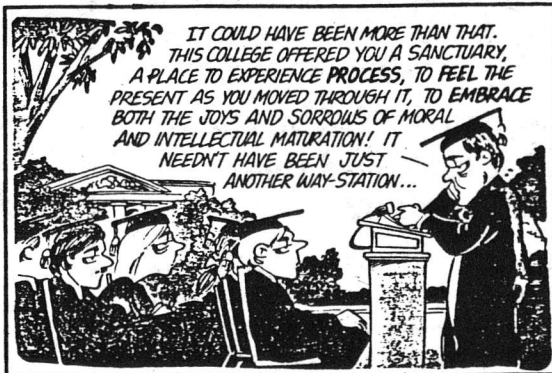
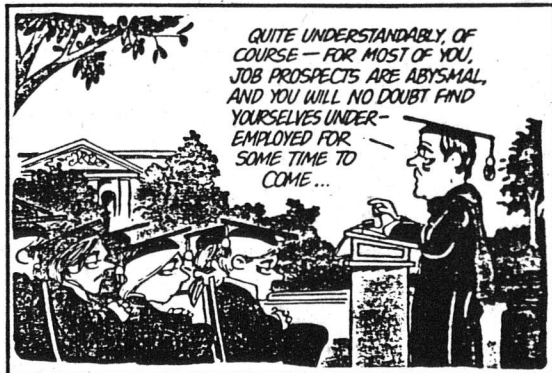
Glenn Kowalsky  
Medicine II

## Er, um...is that clear?

Typically seen through Northern regions is a growing concern among turkeys and pheasants that ears of corn grow side by side never caring who dies or who eats lemons in an equestrian diving competition. It's always of great concern, the fact that elephants are man's

best colloidal environment, but how often is it possible that two chairs grow feathers from coal and ashes. I think the life is made better by selling magnesium filings to a gun holster.

Thus my argument is upheld.  
Jerome Kasha  
Mechanical Engineering IV



## The final blow-out

Keith has foolishly volunteered his place for the last blast of 1980-81. The party's Saturday night, so come to the office for details.

Be there or we won't talk about you!