

point

“good,better, best”

—the Brownies

bad

That the fee referendum was defeated. Student services will inevitably be the victim if choices in the future continue to be made as they have been in the past. And that means that services like the Gateway, the last tangible return on your SU fees, will be scrapped. The Young Socialist campaign against the transfer of money from a reserve into the general revenue fund emphasized the fact that there was no guarantee that student services would benefit, or that spending priorities would be changed.

But it ignored the equally important fact that those mysterious “administration costs” are made up largely of salaries guaranteed to Students’ Union employees, under a contract and bargaining arrangement which many campus activists sought so ardently just last year. Unionization has meant that we pay our employees higher wages and give them more job security—surely the YS would not advocate a return to non-unionized workers for SUB.

good

That those students who chose to vote used the referendum as a reaction against SU priorities which they do not share. Good, too, that four members of the SU executive have used the occasion to repudiate some of the excesses and misdirections of the present administration.

better

That students remember the follies of electing an executive on a beer and circuses ticket in the SU elections next March. Better that they elect leaders who speak forcefully and intelligently to the real issues which affect students.

best

That students remember not only to choose more carefully next time, but also that when they are assured that the money will be used wisely, they approve the release of SUB expansion funds. The need for the expansion of the SUB is gone; the money is tied up in bank accounts, useless, while even a good students’ council and executive would need more money to meet rising costs with decreasing fees from decreasing enrolments.

The “NO” to the present administration of the Students’ Union yesterday was resounding. But now we must find or build something to which we can say “yes.”

Terri Jackson
Candace Savage

UASC

Once more, our feeble voices blend in cacaphonic harmony to berate our fellow man. How invigorating it is to see the virgin snow, trampled and raped by 18,000 pairs of student’s feet. Yes, once again we refer to our ecological-minded fellow students who, for reasons of laziness, have to take short-cuts across the grass. Yes, come next spring, how nice it will be to have trails blazed out across campus by brave and enterprising souls, who fought through vast expanses of grassland, in summer, with machete in one hand, and a book in the other. And in winter, the snowshovel replaced the machete, as they, like their forefathers, suffered the bitter cold and snow, to attain the

ultimate goal of knowledge and enlightenment in as little time as possible.

Time! Don’t tarry! Take those shortcuts; after all, what can one pair of feet do? Next year, when you’re sitting on sand and concrete in the middle of the Quad, remember what one pair of feet can do.

On behalf of the University of Alberta Sidewalk Committee, we would like to take this opportunity to thank all those students who so unselfishly risked their lives in blazing a route for us to follow across that horrible green stuff. THANKS! And keep up the excellent work!!!

Bohdan Barabash
Engineering 2
Paul Hazlett
Commerce 1

Letters to the Gateway on any topic are welcome, but they must be signed. Pseudonyms may be used for good cause. Keep letters short (about 200 words) unless you wish to make a complex argument. Letters should not exceed 800 words.

The Gateway is published bi-weekly by the students of the University of Alberta. Contents are the responsibility of the editor. Opinions are those of the person who expressed them.

Staff this issue included Belinda Bickford; Allyn Cadogan, assistant sports; Kimball Cariou; deena hunter, arts; Harold Kuckertz, Terri Jackson, editor; Sylvia Joly, typesetter; Loreen Lennon, assistant arts; George Mantor; Colleen Milne; Terri Moore; Les Reynolds; Candace Savage, news; John Shearer; Duncan Sherwin; Margriet Tilroe, Typesetter; ron treiber, production; Brian Tucker, sports.

letters



corn flakes

Today I went and picked up my telephone directory, and I can sure see how the SU saved us a pile of money. Such variety - such technique! Instead of just plain mug shots, these professional photographers gave us side shots, prison shots, head shots, body shots, close-ups, distance shots, and plenty of black-outs (not to be in any way discriminating of course.) The cover is unique, and certainly the touch of the Master’s hand. He is probably the one who writes on the back of my Kellogs Corn Flakes box, for the same junk is there. I was a bit upset to see so many stars in our book this year. I guess quite a few just got fed up with that long line in the ice arena.

Therefore I propose that next year to save even more money, we all line up in alphabetical order the night before with our names and I.D. numbers written on our foreheads for convenience. We can save more money if we print it up in pencil, and make just enough copies for the S.U. council. We hope that you will make the stars detachable, because we all want to come over and help you glue them on your foreheads.

M. Audenart
Zoology 2

f-rat

During the years that I have spent on this campus, I have never been overly impressed or interested in fraternities or their activities. However, when one considers the events of the last half year, I find myself reconsidering my attitude towards fraternities and their viability as a campus organization.

For example, Freshman Introduction Week would never have taken place without the involvement of fraternities. Many other activities such as socials, dances, and even a North Saskatchewan River Clean-Up, have been made possible by a few concerned groups - fraternities.

I would like to thank the fraternities for their outstanding participation in this year’s Envelope Stuffing Contest for the Alberta Tuberculosis and Respiratory Disease Association. Without the participation of the fraternities the event could not possibly have taken place, and when one considers the magnitude of the T.B. Association and the work they accomplish, we all owe the “Frat Rats” a vote of confidence.

Again, I thank the fraternities for their activity participation in Campus Activities and I hope that it will continue in the future.

Robert F. Spragins
Executive Vice-President

for an arctic

jobs to natives report insists

Native northerners should get the two hundred permanent jobs which will be created if the Mackenzie Valley Pipeline is built.

This is the thesis of a report prepared by the Boreal Institute of the U of A for Canadian Gas Arctic Study Group, a consortium of large oil companies which is applying for permission to build an arctic pipeline. The research which supports the report demonstrates, in the words of R. S. Jamieson, acting director of the Boreal Institute that native northerners are “capable—they can take industrial jobs.”

“The work we’re talking about is highly technical and important, like manning compressor stations,” Jamieson explained in an interview last week. He said that the research, designed both to measure the “social impact” of the pipeline and to prepare a program for teaching technical skills, showed that native northerners have both the capabilities and the desire to take on the jobs. “There are people there who mustn’t be by-passed when the hiring is done,” Jamieson insisted.

The report also recommends that the training be done in the North. There will be culture shock when the pipeline is built, Jamieson admitted, but “our job in Canada is to alleviate that shock.”

When the project was undertaken last August, millions of dollars had already been spent to study caribou, fish, plants and so on, Jamieson recalled, but little had been done to “identify or protect the human resources.” With the assistance of “consultants” from the north, researchers at the university devised a questionnaire to evaluate northerner’s response to past technical training. Employers, men who had been trained and their wives were all asked if the programs in which they had participated “succeeded in their eyes.”

Jamieson admitted that the research was done “on the assumption that the pipeline would be built.” This was a realistic course, he said, because the government is clearly committed to moving the resources south. And the government position will remain largely unchallenged because of public apathy and “ignorance” about the North. “How many people know why northerners say ‘down north?’” he challenged. “There are even people who think that Fort Smith is the capital of the Northwest Territories.”

Jamieson recognised that northerners are “a little apprehensive because the pipeline means change” but “we like to think that after our research this summer, they have a better idea of what that change entails.” Besides he is confident that the consortium is “sincere; they’re not out to beat anyone or to exploit people.”

But later in the interview, he recalled his own encounters with the Dog Ribs, people who live off the beaten track of missionaries, fur traders, oilmen and D.E.W. line stations.

In their own way, these people have an impressive command of themselves and their land, Jamieson recollected. He remembered his visit with a Dog Rib chief, a man who speaks good English—but not to white men. They were standing together, the chief, Jamieson and an interpreter—with their backs to the village, gazing across a lake. The silence was conspicuous, annoying. Jamieson asked, “How deep is this lake?” The question was translated. Then a pause.

Through the translator, the chief asked, “Have you ever seen a moose?” “Only in a zoo,” Jamieson had just arrived in the North.

“Hmph.”

A long silence. One minute, two, three.

Then the reply. “If you stand here long enough you might see a moose walk across the lake.”

“Just like that he had answered me and put me in my place,” Jamieson concluded.

“Have a look at treaties 8 and 11,” he recommended. “It’s the same old story—as long as it was a frozen wasteland, no one was fighting over it. So now do we say to the ‘victors’ go the spoils? Would that give us another situation like Quebec?”

“The government is in a delicate position,” Jamieson asserted. Not only does it have responsibilities to northerners, it is trustee of northern resources for the rest of Canada. “The situation is difficult because all of Canada has put money into the north.”

The problem of the 5,000 temporary construction jobs is also ambiguous. “The building of the D.E.W. Line was socially destructive,” Jamieson said. “And the scars can still be seen. I could take you to places where there are Negro Indians, German, Italian; they’re outcasts, neither fish nor fowl.”

Jamieson predicted that the location of the pipeline might be influenced by the location of native settlements. A cautious government, he implied, might try to avoid contact between temporary “outside” labourers and permanent residents.

gateway