

The last word

With the out-going Students' Council having their last meeting next Monday, it's time to take one more, final look at the Olmstead executive.

It's unfair to assess any executive without taking into account the factors that affect their performance: the make-up of the Council, and the issues that come up play a role in the actions and success of an executive.

Students' Council this year exhibited the grand Albertan political method, which consists of voting *en masse* in the direction of the general trend. There were few councillors who consistently displayed intelligent dissent during the year, making the entire function of the Council highly questionable. Steve Cumming, Kate Orrell, Dave Sproule and Dean Cave, who usually led any sort of substantial debate on Council, often were forced to defend what some saw as subversive motives, with the result being the effective loss of worthwhile discussion. But, had it not been for their presence, Council would have resembled nothing more than the Alberta legislature.

As far as issues go, nothing new really came up this year, which was in many ways good, because the executive had their hands full with the old ones.

Vp external Tema Frank came into office thinking that quiet reason would have better effects on the provincial government than passionate energy, and, as we have seen, she was wrong. That's not her fault though: it's just unfortunate that her dream of communicating with results with the provincial government prevented any progress from being made in a cutbacks campaign. We are no further ahead in March 1980 than we were two years ago.

(It has been amusing this year though, to watch the continuing protestations of Frank and Dean Olmstead when discussing their cutbacks campaign projects. Always reiterating that "this is definitely nothing like a protest march," it became a classic case of protesting too much.)

While politics were certainly dead for this executive, services fared not much better. The SUB coffee shop L'Express was opened this year, but that was the product of last year's Council. SU Records has done very well and has become Edmonton's premiere hits store. The Long-range Planning Report, the baby of Sharon Bell, was quickly laid to rest in last Friday's referendum. And that's about it for services. Nothing exciting, and no major developments, in a word, mediocrity.

An assessment of Dean Olmstead is difficult, and I'm no expert, which makes things even more awkward. Olmstead was always approachable, and always treated problems with an open mind. I believe this year has been a big education for him, and given more time in office, he probably could have done a lot of important work for the Students' Union. But the president is always tied down by a huge bureaucracy and unco-operative underlings. The frustration Olmstead has experienced with the "system" has probably opened his eyes a little, and let's hope Olmstead's experience isn't lost on incoming president Nolan Astley.

All in all, it's been a highly predictable executive, who managed to keep their heads above water, (though they found themselves bobbing a few times), while avoiding any substantial improvement in the lot of the student. I'll always remember with mirth vp finance Willie Gruber storming out of his office one day to inform me that he would no longer talk with me about any Gateway financial matters because he didn't like an editorial that I didn't even write! Now there's a man who keeps personal opinion out of the smooth functioning of his office!

And don't worry: next week I'll assess *The Gateway* and its performance.

Gordon Turtle

the Gateway

VOL. LXX NO. 47
THURSDAY, MARCH 27, 1980
TWENTY-FOUR PAGES

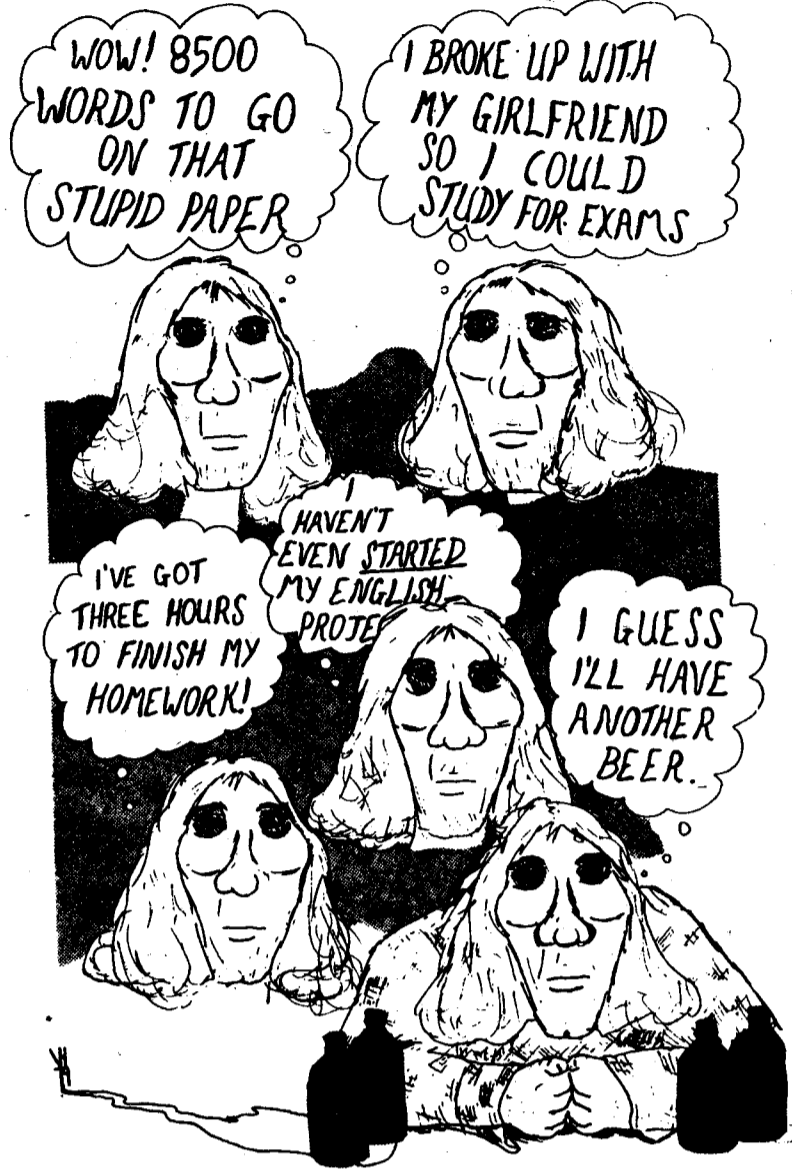
If it happens on campus . . . it's due this week.

THE GATEWAY is the newspaper of the students of the University of Alberta. With a circulation of 18,500, the Gateway is published by its proprietor, the Students' Union, Tuesdays and Thursdays during the winter session. Contents are the responsibility of the editor; editorials are written by the editorial board or signed. All other opinions are signed by the party expressing them. Copy deadlines are 12 noon Mondays and Wednesdays. The Gateway, a member of Canadian University Press and the Youthstream Network, is located at room 282 SUB, Edmonton, Alberta, T6G 2J7.

Newsroom 432-5168
Advertising 432-3423

STAFF THIS ISSUE: Nina Miller, Mike Walker, Bruce Pollock, Sunshine, Janice Michaud, MAXINE MURPHY (bye-bye), Ken Daskewech, Michaleen Marti-Elabdi, Garnet DuGray, Pam Spencer, Birt Townsend, Otto Cup, Hey, if you'd seen the real me, you'd know the graphic didn't do me justice, Keith, 19, in good health, now has a job as Gateway editor (see page 17), Russ — buy some razor blades.

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(Sc)rip off of students in res

Lately Lister Hall students are being shafted by the cafeterias on campus. The students who are the backbone of the university community should have the right to either sell back their scrip or buy non-perishable goods. We have found lately that it is next to impossible to buy pop or juice in large quantities. It has finally reached the stage where we are being harassed at the mere mention of buying goods in bulk.

Food and Housing Services made it clear in the fall that there was not the remotest possibility of them rebuying any scrip. Students must go out of their way to sell scrip at half price. Even at half price it is becoming difficult to find buyers.

This devaluation of money is hurting the student not the administration. What right does the administration have to gain only in the event that the student must lose? As scrip has lost its value, people have stopped equating it to real money. This value is declining steadily, and after April 30th scrip becomes as useless as monopoly money.

Trying to buy a case of pop from Lister cafeteria has become a major undertaking. The women in the cafeteria refuse to

bring out cases from the back, but they don't complain if you take 24 cans from the refrigerator. Recently though, this has become impossible; even the refrigerator has been left unstocked.

This could lead to a chain reaction; cookies, apples, peanuts, chips and chocolate bars, could also fall into this pattern of "hide it quick here comes a res student."

Students travelling long distances to their homes have an additional problem; because they cannot transport pop and

Shock was justified

Roland C. Teape in his letter of Mar. 25 hit the nail right on the head: the death of a reverend clergyman must be treated with the utmost solemnity. If God caused or allowed a fatal electric current to flow through one of his servants to its natural ground, it is no reason for ribaldry by snide journalists like yourselves.

Obviously God had justification for his action or non-intervention; just as he had a reason for making his faithful prophet Ezekiel eat bread made

juice they must turn to buying teabags at the ridiculous price of forty cents a piece.

If students are finding it difficult to use up \$900 of scrip this year, what possibilities do they have of using up \$1200 next year.

We hope that the cafeterias on campus take into consideration our problem and become more receptive to our need.

Joan Romanchuk
Science
Ann Marshall
Commerce

Mistake in English

It seems that Gateway staff are determined to prove to all students on campus that Education students cannot write. We, the executive of the Secondary English Language Arts Council, would like to congratulate the Gateway staff in their diligence on the matter. They uncovered an apparent blooper which went unnoticed by other students. (Gateway, Tuesday, March 25, 1980, p. 3) Unfortunately, the photographer failed to notice that the poster is for the English Club, and that "Calender" is the Old English form of "calendar". While the spelling is archaic, we,

in SELAC will do anything to promote interest in the history and development of the English Language. To quote from the Compact Edition of the Oxford English Dictionary, the word "calender" was used in 1611: "When he (Caesar) corrected the Calender, and ordered the yeere according to the course of the Sonne. . ."

Seriously though, we made a mistake in our poster. Thanks for the advertising of our association.

SELAC executive
1979-80

with cowpies (Ezekiel 4:15); just as he had a reason for indoctrinating his son into believing in spooks (Matthew 8:16, March 9:25, Luke 8:2, etc. etc.); just as he had a reason for giving mankind harmful laws (Ezekiel 20:25); and just as he had a reason for allowing ghostwriters to clutter his biography with contradictions (e.g. between Genesis 1:6-27 and Genesis 2:4-9, re: on which day man was born; between John 1:18, and Genesis 32:30 and Exodus 24:9-11, re: whether or not any man has seen God; between Matthew 1:1-17 and Matthew 1:18, re: whether Joseph or God was the father of Jesus; etc. etc.)

It behooves you Gateway staffers to grasp the stark seriousness of all this, lest the Lord in his wrath suddenly decides to discharge a 15 million volt of electric potential between his omnipotent finger and your mortal hindquarters.

Jens Andersen

