

Word processing problems

All university students are, undoubtedly, under mounting pressure as finals approach. In the few weeks remaining in the term, deadline upon deadline for papers, exams and presentations are due. To alleviate the pressure somewhat, many students have their work typed by professionals. The students can devote their attention to more important studies secure in the knowledge that the menial task of typing is being taken care of. They assume that when they pick up the finished work, it will be relatively free from errors.

I made such an assumption Thursday, November 19, when I took a rather lengthy paper in to Budget Word Processing in Hub Mall. I had typed the paper already, but had paragraphed incorrectly. As it required retyping, and I had other deadlines to meet, I decided to have it redone professionally. Before I dropped it off I proofread the paper and made the few corrections that were needed. When I picked it up a few hours later, I received two shocks.

The first was that BWP charges \$24.00 per hour for word processing services. As my paper had taken close to three hours to put on a disc, I was charged \$64.00. However, I accepted this rather high but unnecessary charge. The paper would be more polished than I could have done in twice that length of time. Unfortunately, that assumption was false.

Though I expected some minor typos, I was not prepared for the innumerable amateurish mistakes I found. Beginning on the title page, my last name (a very simple one), was mis-spelled. Thereafter, there was an average of seven mistakes per page. Punctu-

ation marks, especially quotation marks, were omitted. Obvious spelling errors were repeated. Many sentences were begun with lowercase letters. While some fragments of sentences were repeated, in two places they were left out entirely. The most disturbing evidence of incompetent workmanship, however, was in the citation sections. The bibliography and endnote sections of any paper are ones whose punctuation is not a matter of style but of form. The information must be accurate. In my paper, it was not. Each entry had at least four errors in its punctuation and spelling.

This is not expected in professional work, and certainly is not worth 24.00 per hour. Though BWP offers a correction service with the initial fee, there should not be a need to make so many corrections. Had I submitted the paper written in my own hand, I may have expected some of the errors, but when it had been typed and proofread for errors already, there should have been no difficulty in copying what was written. The time and worry I expected to save in going to Budget was wasted in re-proofing for their errors. In the 90 minutes it took to mark these mistakes, I spoke with another student doing the same thing. Her paper was half the length of mine, yet the errors were as plentiful. Though I was reassured to know that I had not been singled out for this headache, I was, and still am, disgusted to realize that my paper was representative of the work Budget Word Processing does.

Based on my experience, I strongly suggest that other students who are considering enlisting the services of BWP to do their own typing or to go else where. The work is nothing less than shoddy.

Kei Kent

Turn to Jesus for change

One of the toughest things I have had to do is to read the article "Incest Victim's Story" in the November 24th issue of the Gateway. The article stated that the victim was five when she first tasted her father's semen, that the whole family was divided and torn apart due to the father's doings, and that the victim's sister became pregnant with her own father. One would tend to conclude that this is an uncommon situation and that there are very few cases like it. However, the article went on to say that one out of every two girls and one out of every three boys experience some form of sexual abuse in their lifetime. A question needs to be asked. Why? Why does this happen and how can it be prevented from happening?

Being a Christian, I strongly believe that once enough people in today's society begin a strong personal relationship with Jesus Christ, problems such as these would be greatly reduced. You see, GOD loves each one of us and offers a wonderful plan for our lives. Jesus said, "I came that you might have

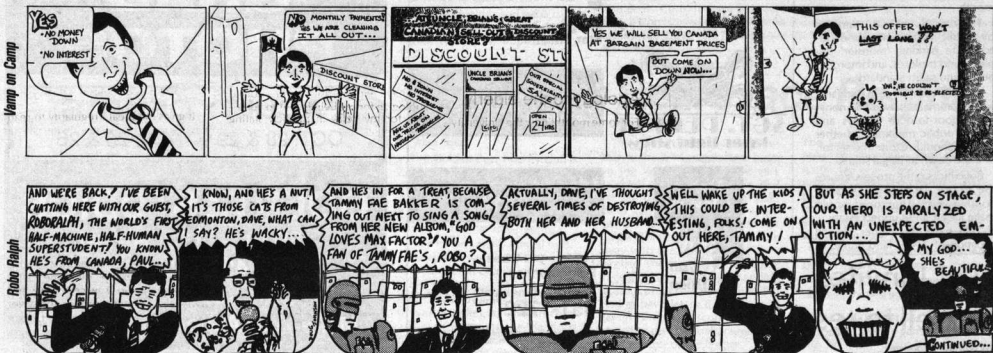
life and have it abundantly." The problem is that many individuals in today's society do not want anything to do with GOD. They might think that GOD does not take a personal interest in them, or that GOD didn't prove his love for them. In John 15:13, it says, "Greater love has no man than this, that he (Jesus Christ) lay down his life for his friends (us)." Again, in Romans 5:8, it says "But GOD demonstrated his own love for us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us." God allowed Jesus to be man's (or woman's) only provision to start a relationship with him. This was done not to condemn man but to allow him the awesome privilege of having a relationship with the GOD of the universe. The only hindrance that man has is that he must receive Christ to be Saviour and Lord of his life, then he will experience GOD's true love.

I often point out, if Jesus' promises of a new life are not true, you have lost nothing in asking him to control you, but if you are in need of a renewed life, turn to him and he will change you for the best.

Sam Girgis


Matthew McClure

Reporter for the Edmonton Journal will give a workshop for Gateway staff  
 Thursday November 26 at 4 p.m. Room 270A SUB  
 Beyond the Obvious:  
 Basic Investigative Reportive Techniques  
 Everyone Welcome



International Relations and Strategic Studies Society  
 All Party Debate on  
**FREE TRADE**  
 with speakers  
 Hon. Lloyd Axworthy Lib.  
 ? P.C.  
 Hon. Lorne Nystrom NDP  
**Wednesday Dec 02/87**  
**12:15 - 2:30 p.m.**  
**SUB Theatre**

Calgary Board of Education  
**Applications for Interviews**  
 Commencing March 7 - 11, 1988, the Calgary Board of Education will be interviewing at the University of Alberta.  
 Those students completing their certification requirements by August 1988 are invited to make application for an interview.  
 Applications are now available on Campus at the Canada Employment Centre (Students Union Building).  
 Completed Applications along with supporting documents must be returned to the CANADA EMPLOYMENT CENTRE by January 15, 1988.  
 To ensure complete documentation and to meet the required deadline, it is recommended that applicants obtain an application form as soon as possible.

Do you feel like really looking into things?  
  
 Write feature stories for the Gateway.