

rich vivone's letter about an old steve rybak column has struck some nerves. we have three (count them, three) letters on the marching band. we also have letters on money, education, treasure van, radio, and sub. good reading faithful fans.

## letters

### an example

The provincial government has been generous enough to promise to match dollar for dollar any donations to the university.

We should be the first to respond to this offer, to affirm our regard for our own university, to set an example for others to emulate. Let us be the first to set this snowball rolling and gathering.

I propose, therefore, to send today a check to the president marked "For the University Matching Fund", and I urge faculty and students to do the same. Remember, every dollar you give becomes two.

N. Parker-Jervis  
Dep't. of English

### the trip

Having just returned from what many people, including myself, considered a highly successful trip to Toronto—a trip which made the University of Alberta Golden Bears the Canadian Intercollegiate Football Champions in our Centennial year—I was very surprised to read in the November 28th issue of The Gateway of Rich Vivone's sudden change in attitude toward football trips and the merits of the band and cheerleaders accompanying the players on such trips.

I still clearly remember our trip to Vancouver, Oct. 25 last year. On this particular trip, the band and cheerleaders were along, as was Mr. Vivone. He was among those who enjoyed themselves in various stages of sobriety, and was among those who had many good things to say about the team, the band, and the cheerleaders. However, it seems this year, since he did not have the opportunity to accompany us on the trip, his attitudes have changed considerably. He has made some accusations and some general statements that were unwarranted and, in some cases, completely untrue.

First, I would be interested to know where Mr. Vivone gets his information regarding the financing of the band's trip to Toronto. The total cost for the band was \$5,808 and not \$8,000 as he stated, and the total cost was not borne by the students of this university. A total of \$1,000 that was not budgeted for came from the students' union and the athletic board combined. The remainder required to finance the band's trip was raised by the band members from outside sources, our goal at this moment, incidentally, being some \$1,400 short of the mark. All expenses other than transportation came out of the pockets of the band members. If Mr. Vivone would care to apply for the job of Publicity Director, I think probably the students' union would be happy to pay him "the amount required to send the band to Toronto", namely \$1,000, the amount extra it cost the students' union.

Secondly, if he has any doubts about the value of the band (or dribble as he seems to prefer) I suggest he enquire of the football players what the band contributed to the game and to their winning of it.

Third, there seems to be quite a large group of people in the Toronto area who think the band's performance at the half-time show was worthwhile. So much so in fact that they cancelled the show they had originally planned so the University of Alberta Golden Bears Marching Band could be featured at half-time.

Fourth, I would like to ask Mr. Vivone how many university sports and other functions he has attended this fall. I'd venture to say the total number of events he has graced with his presence is no greater than the number at which the band has appeared, for example the opening of Michener Park, the Commerce Rodeo (both shows), FIW week, all the home football games, a Saskatoon game (which the band members paid for themselves), the Chariot Races, and the opening of new SUB.

Incidentally, if any of you students or staff would like to attend a free concert put on by us "dribble", you'll have your chance Sunday at 8 p.m. in the SUB theatre.

Dick Burgman  
President  
Golden Bear Bands

### rah-rah

In response to Rich Vivone's letter entitled "More than Football", I would like to make the facts of the matter he deplores known.

Firstly, he says it is not necessary for the band and the cheerleaders to go wherever the team goes. No, it is not; no, they do not. Furthermore, he says if they do go, they should raise their own funds. Students should not have to pay \$8,000 "to send this dribble to Toronto."

Well, Mr. Vivone, the band does raise its own funds. The sum of \$8,000 which you quote is approximately 150 per cent of the true figure needed and raised. The band's plane trip was sponsored jointly by the UAB, the students' union, Molson's, the alumni association and Dr. Walter Johns himself.

The band members and cheerleaders paid their own room and board. In plain words, the trip to Toronto was not a free bonus binge given by the oppressed students of U of A; rather, it was an honor that a spirited group worked for, paid for and deserved.

Mr. Vivone proceeds to make more uninformed remarks. Why should the band go to UBC? Sorry, Rich, but that was last year when the game was important. This year, they went to Saskatchewan on a students' union spectator bus and paid their own fare, which is more than sports editors do, I'm told.

The cheerleaders, like any other team on campus, are budgeted. Each year, the UAB decides on which trip the budget will be spent. This year, it went toward the chartered plane. Any further excursions will be paid for by the cheerleaders themselves.

But the worst of Mr. Vivone's wet blanket statements is "Why does the band go to Toronto to make a

big impression?" Exactly for that reason they go, and well they succeed. Ask the football team what difference it makes to play to a stadium ringing with Alberta spirit. Ask any Easterner what he thinks about U of A and our school support. The Golden Bear Marching Band conveys a message from this campus that can't be put down to dollars. That "dribble" Vivone sees is the only college marching band in Canada, and ranks with the best in the U.S.

If anyone deserves to accompany the football team (and I give Vivone that if, for to some the outward displays of college spirit mean nothing), the marching band does—the marching band which has played at all home football games and will play for basketball and hockey. It is very small of Richard Vivone to deplore a contribution by the students' union to send such a fitting delegation to Toronto to give support to its own, to our own, champion football team.

Kathy Govier  
arts 2

### educational blackmail

I have always wanted to be a teacher. I am in the position of having completed a degree and am now enrolled in the faculty of education. All students with undergraduate degrees wishing to teach must go through a year of unbelievable frustration before they are allowed to teach. This smells terribly of educational blackmail to me. If the year was justified and useful, I certainly would not consider it educational blackmail.

For the most part, the student, having completed an undergraduate degree, is an inspired and eager individual. Surely these two qualities are essential to good teaching. We all know of the professor or teacher who is merely putting in time and is usually the first one out of the classroom when the bell rings.

For what reason is the student subjected to this torture (in one class, a philosophy lecture)? We are not even allowed a quaint smile or the egotistical lecturer is having tantrums. If anyone can justify the year to me, please do so. I have heard the reason that it is important to be a liberalized individual. I say great. Well, what did our undergraduate degrees do for us? Perhaps one philosophy course, but surely not four out of five courses which have absolutely no value to the prospective teacher.

Students want to talk about problems in education; they want to go out and see these problems and possibly offer alternatives. Students desire to find out what general qualities are essential to good teaching. This desire and eagerness is slowly but surely being squashed in many students who are participating in this year of education.

The students know what to teach; they do not know how to teach. Each classroom is a different situation and requires different methods to achieve learning. Specific teaching methods should not be taught because of the complexity of situations, but general methods should be

taught. The personality of the teacher and its effect on the children should also be stressed.

A suggested alternative to the year of education might be a one-year intern period where student teachers go to the schools four days out of five and hold regular classes on the fifth day. During the one day of classes, a discussion period could take place where we could discuss what happened and evaluate our performances objectively and state alternatives. This idea would surely increase standards of beginner teachers in our school system.

Something must be wrong when one feels like standing up and walking out of every class. Come on now, let's be fair to the children who attend our schools and prepare teachers to be teachers, not puppets or worse yet, lecturers. I have only four and one-half months of mentally-stiffling hell to go through before I am finished. I sincerely wish me luck.

Dennis Johnston  
ed 1

### band fans

The remarks of Mr. Vivone regarding the U of A Golden Bear Marching Band, in Tuesday's paper, are entirely without foundation or truth.

The band members who went to Toronto left with the understanding (which still has not been cleared up, at last report), that they may have to pay over 30 dollars each to help pay for the trip, when they returned. This did not include rooms or meals, but only general transportation costs.

The U of A band is a very good one and the best we personally have ever played in—including the HM-CS Techumseh Navy Band in Calgary. Very high congratulations should be awarded to those who have contributed so much of their own personal time, to form Canada's only university marching band, and bring it up to such high standards which it has already attained in the last few years, especially to Mr. Cec Pretty.

Comments in the east were very complimentary and the half-time show—for which the Musicians Union asked \$5,000 of CBC to broadcast at half-time—drew compliments from every direction. Toronto now knows who has the best marching band, as well as the best football team, in Canada—U of A.

If the student body would come out, support activities and listen to the band play, they could not help but realize the assets it lends to the university atmosphere. There is, incidentally, an opportunity for this at our fall concert on Sunday, December 10, at 8 p.m. in SUB theatre. There will be no charge, but a silver collection. Now, Mr. Vivone, we challenge you, personally, to attend—to see what the facts are.

Here is your controversy.

New band members,  
John Abelseth  
John MacDonald

### a treasure

We of WUS also challenge the students of this campus to think about Treasure Van and about where the money is going.

For we are confident that if students think about where the money is going, they will buy even more.

Treasure Van is an opportunity to buy goods from all around the world—an exciting opportunity that does not often come to Edmontonians, especially at the low prices that are offered at Treasure Van.

The profits of Treasure Van go towards running the national and local program of World University Service. WUS is a student faculty

organization with two major aims. The first is to help Canadian students to become more aware of the world around them; the second is to help the academic community in developing nations to aid themselves.

We of WUS feel both these goals are really important. We know that any student who questions WUS and finds out very much about it will realize what a worthwhile organization it is.

Unquestionably, the ten cents per student that goes to WUS is one of the best-spent ten cents allocated in the students' union budget.

WUS annual projects include Treasure Van, and International Travel Seminar. Local programs vary each year but usually include seminars, speakers, local conferences, films, book drives and the like.

The International Travel Seminar invites all students to apply and is an opportunity for the participating students to learn a lot about themselves, Canadian students, and the world. Seminar participants always come back and make valuable contributions to student activities.

All the money collected for Share goes directly overseas to aid underdeveloped countries to help themselves.

We hope that all U of A students will accept the challenge you offered—to buy Treasure Van out of business. We hope to see you there too.

Irene McRae  
WUS Chairman

### that sound

Who or what selects the music that assails us daily from the SUB loudspeakers?

Madame Currie might indeed be the one most familiar with this particular brand of "radioactivity". Does it require five or ten years of musical celibacy to be elected, appointed or is it ostracised to choosing music to be played on U of A Radio?

Perhaps newer records are expensive, and the station is (like the rest of us) working on a limited budget. Whatever the case, remember even the BBC had to relent. Even now, pirate radio stations, located within and around the periphery of Edmonton, emit that damnable popular stuff.

Be warned, U of A Radio, the 78 is a fragile thing; the 45 and LP will not be denied.

Ian Coull  
arts 1

### sub, schmub

Well, now I have heard everything. I, as well as 12,000 other students, get to pay 50 cents to sit up in the seventh floor lounge of SUB. Garbage!

I didn't pay \$35.50 in fees to have to pay 50 cents every time I want to have a non-alcoholic beverage served to me.

The lounge should be used as such, not an extemporaneous form of income for the Special Events Committee. The lounge was a nice, quiet place to have coffee on a Saturday night; now it is turned into a teeny-bopper stomping place.

As of today (Nov. 30) the committee is still not sure of the "entertainment" for his weekend—great planning. This is going to be another failure backed by the students' union. Why should we pay for mistakes?

Let's use the lounge for what it was designed. There is enough entertainment in various parts of campus already; why bugger up the only quiet place left?

Jack Segal  
arts 1