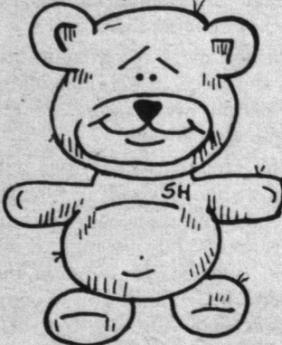


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Gateway makes mark

Let me tell you; there is nothing more attractive than walking around campus with black smudgemarks on your hands and face. Now maybe I've just got a small problem with my own body chemistry, but I find that whenever I come away from reading an issue of *The Gateway*, I look like a sheet of zinc left to sit in an oxygen tent. Does anyone else have this dilemma?! Now I enjoy a good *Gateway* just as much as the next faithful reader, but aren't there inks available to help alleviate this problem?

Marnie Fyten
 Science II

Editor's note: While non-smudging inks are available, they are unfortunately very expensive — beyond the range of our budget! I hope you'll continue to bear with us.

Faculte "not ignored"

Re: Faculte St. Jean info "a waste" (Nov. 3)

With regards to the story "Faculte St. Jean info 'a waste'", two points remain to be clarified:

1. The booth will not be "dismantled"; rather, it will remain and will be supplied with pamphlets. The change is that we do not want to *staff* the booth, except at the beginning of each term. Information pamphlets will still be available.

2. The proper context of the quote that "people don't need" the Faculte booth is "people don't need the Faculte booth all year, but it is useful at the start of term,

It should also be emphasized that it is not, and never has been, the intention to "abandon" Faculte students. They are part of the Students' Union and the Students' Union recognizes its obligation to them. The current debate over the Faculte info booth centres around how to make it more cost-effective and useful.

Clarification of these points would be appreciated, so as to reassure any disheartened Faculte students that they are *not* being ignored.

Marc Dumouchel
 Director, S.U. Information Services



Free trade controversy

Re: Trade talk trite (Nov. 8)

"Well said!" should go out to Alan Small for his concise analysis of the debate on free trade. Alan called for a non-partisan analysis of the problem from a knowledgeable, disinterested party.

Though I do not have the required credentials, perhaps I can shed some light on why the debate resembled "a battle of four year olds rather than an informative intellectual debate."

The human intellect cannot understand a self-contradictory term or proposition. The expression "square-circle" is such a self-contradictory term and it is my opinion that "free trade deal" is also such a term.

An analogy of the argument can be made in this way. Brian Mulroney stands up and says, "We must model our economy on the paradigm of the Square-Circle Economy." Because of the roundness of the circle in our square-circle economic model the economy will roll along smoothly. Ed Broadbent and John Turner immediately raise a horrendous protest, and say "Because of the squareness of the 'Square-Circle Economic Model' our economy will bump along and our social programs will fall off the cart."

Average non-experts immediately grasp the absolutely contradictory positions of the debating politicians. Instead of calling for non-partisan experts to decide which is the more credible side of the debate, we should have been immediately aware of the self-contradictory expression "free trade deal". If trade is "free", why are they signing a document an inch thick delineating what the rules and regulations should be? If it's a trade "deal", why are the politicians calling it "free"? The fact that so called intelligent university students, economists and politicians took the debate seriously is a testament to the growing functional illiteracy in our country.

Kevin Byrne
 Arts

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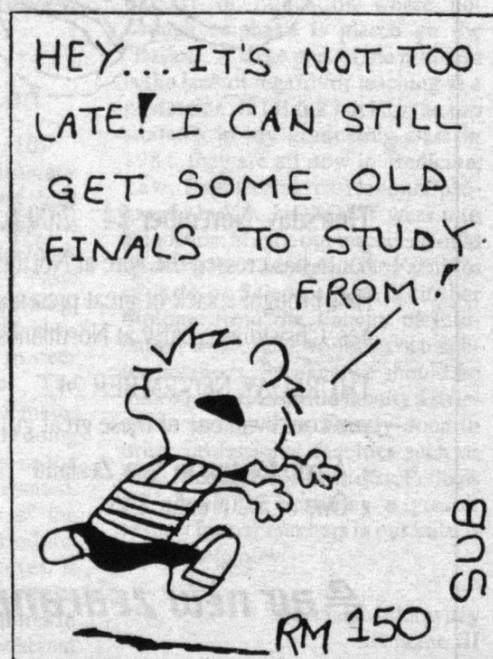
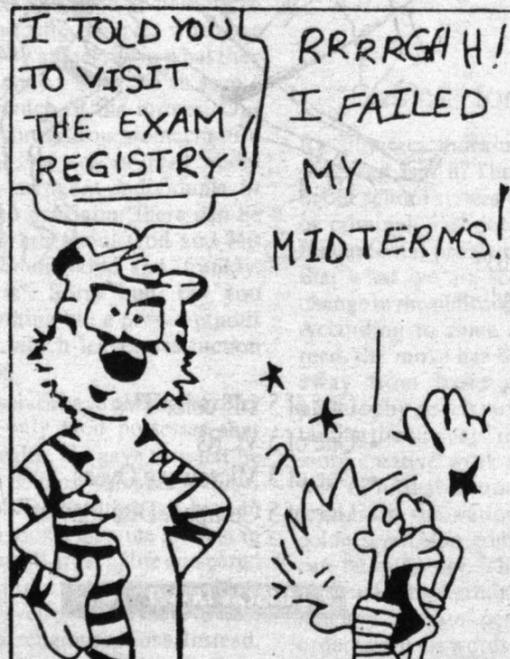
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