

forum five



Straight goods

developments will augment the Gross National Product. Studies on society become behavioural science, understood as control of behaviour, and used for programmes of social engineering (of which advertising is a species: do you really think there's a difference between toothpaste brands!) and/or war. The secrecy and national rivalry of scientific pursuits is so far removed from what science is, that it is no exaggeration to maintain that only positivistic technology exists in fact; and since it exists in a system that merely claims it is 'value-neutral', how research is used, and even what sort of research is attempted, is left to either folly or force.

In the meantime, the world is becoming overly and wrongly technologized and it is costing us our environment, our brothers' cultures as well as our own, and verily threatens the existence of the human being.

Technology must be simplified; its interlocking bureaucratic substructure must be decentralized; the ex cathedra ejaculations of the scientific clergy must be replaced by a modesty of presentation more appropriate to their findings and more conducive to a friendly co-operative searching after truth; and we must foresake the ruinous proposition of attempting to 'bring nature to her knees', and rather understand that we are with nature. Having her bound and prostrated before the hand of a secular panel is - almost ironically, were it not already the case - to wreak the same fate on man himself.

Brian Chomica
Grad. Studies
Philosophy

I was glad to see the story of plagiarism in last Thursday's Gateway, but its extremely local application at Wellesley College made it a bit hard to follow, especially to understand clearly what is and what is not permissible, and what is and what is not necessary, in the use of source materials. Here follows a clarification, which perhaps you would like to publish:

Plagiarism is the intentional unacknowledged theft of ideas, data, or words from the writings of someone else. That is, the plagiarist puts forward words, ideas, or factual data which he has not done any work for, other than to copy them, as work of his own.

Unintentional "plagiarism" is the kind of thing which results from ignorance or naivete on the part of a student who does not know how to acknowledge borrowed material or borrowed words, who does not realize that paraphrase or summary of another's work must be acknowledged, or who simply forgets where he got something and decides it will not matter. Some students have grown so confused or tense about the correct form of acknowledgment that, rather than risk a mistake in this minor matter, they risk the charge of intentional theft.

Intentional plagiarism is one of the most serious academic offenses there is, not only because it is theft, but because it substitutes copying for learning, and thus contradicts the purpose of attending a school and studying some body of material. This kind of plagiarist is after a grade, believing, it would seem, that this is what he is here for, and exhibits a startling naivete of his own, for stupid plagiarism is easy to spot, and smart plagiarism (easier to spot than one thinks) is usually harder work than is writing an honest paper.

Unintentional plagiarism, on the other hand, is only serious as

one among many kinds of ignorance. To avoid it, all students should remember that any conscious borrowing from the work of another must be acknowledged. The form used for acknowledgement unfortunately varies from one area of study to another, but all such forms are conventional, and any student who feels uncertain about which is the correct one for a particular paper has a very simple recourse,

1. He can look up correct forms in a style sheet, or, still simpler,

2. He can ask his professor.
Jean MacIntyre
Associate Professor

On Savard

I have read the newspaper for four years now, and I believe that the Gateway has finally come through with sensible and intelligent newspaper management. However, there is still one failing: you continue to print letters from John Savard.

It is obvious that this fellow enjoys nothing more than seeing his own name in print. One must laugh every time one of Savard's letters is published, and his latest gem of babbling blabber is a paramount example.

I respect his views on abortion, but his use of analogies is immature at best. Imagine, comparing the freedom of abortion to that of slavery!

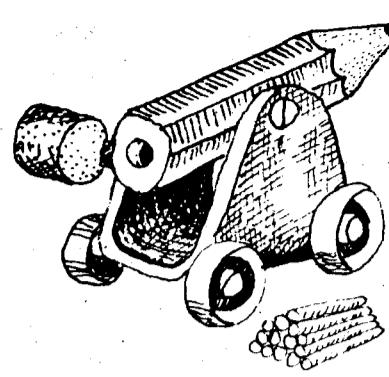
Thank you for listening to my views, and keep up the good work.

Gary Skakun
Pharmacy 4

Dear Mr. Skakun,

Pages 4 and 5 of The Gateway are open to any concerned individual to express his personal opinions, as you have above. We do not wish to restrict this input from our readership.

Bernie Fritze
Gateway Editor



editorial

Will Bears get justice?

If the Golden Bear football team doesn't win the Western Intercollegiate Football League championship this year it will be a shame.

Prior to their losing two games by forfeit due to Don Kates' failure to register, the Bears had proven themselves as the best team in the WIFL. They had won their first five league games by overwhelming margins. They needed just one more win to clinch the league title.

But after the league's decision to wipe out two of Alberta's wins the Bears had to start their run for the championship over again.

The league's decision shouldn't be criticized. League president Jim Day and his vice president and secretary had no choice but to follow the WIFL rules and punish U of A for using an ineligible player. The only reason that the Bears forfeited just two of the four games in which Kates played was because the first two games came before the deadline for registration. For the season's first games all teams in the league are vulnerable to an action like Kates'.

Going into Saturday's game the Bears were tied for first place and still had the chance to prove they were the best team in the west. If Alberta had beaten Manitoba on Saturday and gone on to win their last two games they would have won the championship.

But for some reason they couldn't put the game away on Saturday. They beat the Bisons in almost every facet of the game but scoring.

I don't know why the Bears had trouble scoring. Perhaps they were too tense. Perhaps they were too upset from having to forfeit two games. Whatever the reason, they put themselves in a bad situation by losing to the Bisons.

To get the championship now U of A must win the rest of their games and hope that both Calgary Dinosaurs and Manitoba Bisons lose one of theirs.

The Bears have to play Saskatchewan and UBC in the next two weeks. Calgary and Manitoba meet in Calgary next Saturday and the loser of that game will probably be eliminated from the race. The Dinosaurs finish their season against Saskatchewan in Saskatoon, while Manitoba has games with UBC and Saskatchewan yet to play.

Despite their 4-2 record, including a 61-0 win over UBC last Friday, I think the Dinos could still lose one of their last two. Manitoba though, will be tough to beat after their win against U of A. It doesn't look very good for the Bears right now but who knows what will happen.

All I know is that they deserve the WIFL title and, as one of the players said to me Saturday night, "If there's any justice in the world, we'll get it."

Peter Best

Oh those Exam Week Blues

Do you feel the walls crushing? Three exams already over and two more to come. And if you're unlucky, professors of your Monday or Tuesday classes all decided to schedule their mid-terms on the same day and you end up with two exams straight, a fifty minute break and then another one to cheer you up.

I don't particularly mind exams weeks - they're part of our job. But, on the other hand, if there is no fixed exam schedule, results must eventually become a question of luck. A person with his exams nicely spread out stands a much better chance to get a good grade than poor Joe Blow who has three in a row.

With so much emphasis on grades for admission to Med or Law school - to mention just two most prominent schools, this system has to be changed somehow. One cannot eliminate inequality in life but one does not have to enforce it either.

Harold Kuckertz

