

Opinion

Randal Smathers



Twenty years after Woodstock...

This is the last time I'll sit down to do the editorial chore until next fall, and I thought I'd like to share some thoughts on the state of the nation with you.

We're seeing the end of an era on campus, as Myer Horowitz leaves. He's had a difficult tenure, including multiple bypass surgery, and has faced cutbacks so severe as to have to beg for bucks at last year's convocation. Throughout, he's been remarkably accessible to *The Gateway*, and I'd like to wish him the best.

The SU executive just elected made some extravagant promises in their campaigns (as did their opponents), and I hope they'll take another look at cracking open the vaults. Reserve funds are there for a reason—although the maximum useful size of the fund may have now been reached—and more free or subsidized entertainment at Freshman Introduction Week is not the right reason.

City Hall will have a new mayor by the end of the year, or Terry Cavanaugh will have a new mandate. Don Getty will be re-elected, having lost his seat because of a list of goodies similar in tone to the ones our SU promised us, but Alberta can look forward to having a new premier before we have a new government.

The Free Trade Agreement is starting to make itself felt—last night's *Venture* program on CBC showed how lawyers have already found a way to make more money because of it. That's not a surprise, but Canada will start to noticeably change as a result of the pact, and soon, and the ways it does change may be a surprise.

George Bush wants a kinder, gentler America. Regular readers of this space will know what I think the chances of that happening are, but the rhetoric was nice. It made me think back to the last time the world saw a major peace movement, which I am just old enough to remember.

Two decades ago saw the approaching peak of the hippie movement, accompanied by the peace freaks, the drug culture, and the back-to-nature types. They're gone now, of course. The peace freaks sell guns, the back-to-nature types are corporate lawyers for Exxon, and those formerly turned on have now joined Nancy Reagan, and just say "no".

I see that the sixties have come back in style this year, with vee-jays (whatever the hell they are) wearing polyester flower shirts, but the fact that the substance of that time is starting to return is more important, with international disarmament and the ecology becoming major political issues of the day. Maybe *all* the hippies didn't turn out wrong after all. Maybe this'll be the Summer of Love.

The Gateway

Editor-in-Chief: DRAGOS RUIU
Managing Editor: ROSA JACKSON
News Editors: KEVIN LAW, JEFF COWLEY
Entertainment Editor: MIKE SPINDLOE
Sports Editor: ALAN SMALL
Photo Editor: CLIVE OSHRY
Production Editor: RANDAL SMATHERS
Circulation Manager: TERI CLARKE
Advertising: TOM WRIGHT

CONTRIBUTORS

RACHEL SANDERS, PAM HNYTKA, WINSTON PEI,
MICHELLE LAGRANGE, SHEILBY COOK, ANDREW
LUMMIS, DARREN KELLY, JASON BODNAR,
BRIAN JORGENSON, SHANNON TAYLOR, CHRIS
COOK, AJAY BHARDWAJ, GRANT WINTON,
ILOYD ROBERTSON, KY PERRAUN, JENNIFER
VOLI RATH, BYRON COLLINS, RON SEARS, HEIDI
MCFADYEN, ROB GALBRAITH, JIMMY HOFFA,
ELVIS, BILL HORNE, MADONNA.

All materials appearing in *The Gateway* are copyright and may not be used without written permission of *The Gateway*.

The Gateway is the University of Alberta students' newspaper. Contents are the responsibility of the Editor-in-Chief. All opinions that are signed by the writer do not necessarily reflect the views of *The Gateway*. Copy deadlines are 11 a.m. Mondays and Wednesdays. Newsroom: 282 SUB (phone 492-5168). Sports and production offices: 230 SUB (phone 492-5068). Photos printed in *The Gateway* may be for sale. Call the photodirectorate at 492-5168 or come by Room 235 SUB. Advertising: Room 256D SUB (SU Executive offices) phone 492-4241. Mailing address: Room 256D Students' Union Building, U of A Edmonton, Alberta, T6G 2J7. Readership is 30,000.

THE LOST SPIKE!



Letters

Instructor awaits decision

Almost every student who has taken courses with me signed a letter of petition, objecting to the University administrators' decision regarding me. I gave my side of the story which appeared in *The Gateway*. Everyone expected the University administrators to come up with a reason to justify their actions. So far there has been no response from them. I think that the university administrators had no way of defending their decision (of not hiring me as a sessional instructor) and thought that by the end of the year everyone would have forgotten the whole mess! This is why I feel obliged to write this letter. I believe the students signed the petition because they felt they had every right to question the administrators' wisdom in not hiring the students' highly rated instructor. It was an insult to ask the students about their instructors and then fire the best choice.

It is a fact that there is going to be abuse of power by some individuals in every system. But abuse of power in a centre of intellectuals is the most painful kind. I think many of you consider my example as a dark point for the University. Let me assure you that I feel proud of my services to the University of Alberta, particularly after your words of support and kindness. Thank you very much.

Hadi Kharaghani
former Mathematics instructor,
University of Alberta

Frats fret

It would appear that Dr. Gary Kelly has a vendetta against the fraternities on campus. The professor has co-ordinated a campaign in the Garneau area to put a cap on these "outrageous parties" and, presumably, bring a more quiet, dignified atmosphere to campus. To ensure that this quintessential collegiate atmosphere is upheld at the U of A, Dr. Kelly has made statements in the *Edmonton Sun* (see April 3, 1989), and has called the City Police to quell these riotous fraternity parties. The police, however, have only on rare occasions

seen it necessary to shut these parties down.

Most fraternity parties are run in a responsible, professional manner. Like all registered clubs/organizations of the Students' Union, fraternities fall under the jurisdiction of the Code of Student Behavior, and try to adhere to its regulations as much as possible.

Dr. Kelly has stated that fraternities serve no other purpose than to be a party haven for drunkards. Oh really? Has Dr. Kelly considered the philanthropic work done by EVERY fraternity on campus? The ACT Telethon, Boys' and Girls' Club of Edmonton, the Terry Fox Run, Red Cross, Cross Cancer Institute, and financial assistance to Campus Athletics are just a part of what these "drunkards" do, Dr. Kelly. As well, the fraternity system on campus has one of the highest cumulative GPA's of any student organization on campus. As for serving no purpose, some alumni of fraternities from this campus would strongly disagree. Bill Code, Peter Loughheed, Dr. Randy Gregg, Dr. Peter Meekison (U of A VP Academic), Dr. Allan Warrack (U of A VP Administration), or Dr. Terry White (former U of A Dean of Arts, and President of Brock University) would take issue with Kelly's statements.

A final point: Dr. Kelly resides on 85th avenue. Yet he went out of his way to call the police department to disrupt a party on 87th Avenue and 83 Avenue. C'mon, Dr. Kelly, aren't we going just a wee bit overboard?

Charles Vethan
Phi Delta Theta
(Students' Union VP Academic)

Chris Welsh
Delta Upsilon
(Students' Union VP Finance and Admin)

Enforce smoking laws

In September 1988 Edmonton enacted a nearly unprecedented law governing smoking in public and at workplaces. The University followed this lead by prohibiting smoking in all buildings on campus except in designated smoking areas. These efforts are both long overdue and greatly

progressive considering past governmental attitudes towards smoking. But these actions are also *useless*. Neither the City of Edmonton nor the University of Alberta have done anything to enforce this legislation aside from putting stickers on doors. Smoking abounds with as much frequency as it ever did, only now it is officially illegal.

Hardline nicotine addicts, which is what they are, feeling that their rights are being violated, have become belligerent. No one of any official capacity bothers to enforce the law (excepting Edmonton Transit who occasionally broadcast non-smoking reminders over the P.A. system) and those citizens who try are ignored, called radicals and fanatics, and sometimes physically assaulted. I personally have been told to "eat shit," "fuck off and die," and "grow up" by smokers after pointing out the non-smoking signs and I was once shoved into a wall by a nicotine freak trying to bait me into a fight in a bus shelter. Everyone ignored us.

Smoke if you want. Smoke five packs a day if it gets you off, but keep away from me while you do it. Smoke at home, or in your car. People don't tolerate drinking in public, outside of bars, and drinking doesn't harm bystanders. So why should we accept smoking, which does?

As a taxpayer (minimal) and a student (optimal) I demand that steps be taken by my city and my university to enforce the laws they have passed. One police officer writing tickets in IRT stations during peak hours could generate enough income in one week to pay his monthly salary, and writing \$20 tickets to students would certainly ease the burden campus security puts on the University budget, and may even eliminate the "library & computer" fees we students pay.

Doug Hohenstein
Science IV

P.S. I have been writing this letter in CAB (a non-smoking area). I have witnessed through the choking smoke three pairs of campus security guards amble past. Not one of them gave the smokers a sideways glance.