

EDITORIAL

The real handicap

An award-winning commercial about disabled people was shown in one of my classes last week and it shocked a few people around me.

A woman in her mid-20's, who was born without arms, was looking back: "I wish my mother would have disregarded my disability as much as was possible."

"I wish she would have sent me to a normal school. When my mother died, it was really the beginning of my life," said the woman, as the camera showed her writing with her feet. The bitterness she showed was frightening.

For disabled students at the University of Alberta, there is no pat answer that they can give to "normal" students about the way they should be treated.

The University has set up a Disabled Student Advisory Committee through the Office of Student Affairs. The Committee wants to "promote independence on the part of students with disabilities and to work toward increased accessibility of University buildings."

Last week, the SU's External Affairs Board sponsored a number of events, including spending a day in a wheelchair. Although a day (how does one get into the Tory Building?) hardly compares to a lifetime (how does one get around, period?), Disabled Students Week offered insights into the problems of the disabled.

The Office of Student Affairs, in Room 225 Athabasca Hall, has more information if you want to know more or if you want to help out.

Disabled Student Week and its objectives - to promote awareness, acceptance, and interaction with disabled students - deserves praise.

The External Affairs Board's decision to support the university's Advisory Committee via special events and displays in CAB and SUB is an example of a Students' Union being useful.

"Too often, regulations and paper shuffling are substitutes for the more arduous task of caring," says psychologist Marilyn Whiteside.

In this instance, the individuals on the External Affairs Board have set aside the paperwork.

Brent Jang

Hacks of '83

The Yes-CFS committee's decision to appeal DIE Board's decision to overturn the CFS referendum is both ethically contemptuous and politically stupid.

Now the University Disciplinary Panel - a non-student U of A administrative board - will have to decide for the kids the problems the kids can't handle themselves. It is no wonder students-at-large have no respect for the political hacks who can't even handle their internal affairs by themselves, let alone the problems of all students - unemployment, cutbacks, etc.

It no longer matters whether DIE Board's decision was just. Appealing past the highest student body will (and should) incite contempt for Yes-CFS.

It also doesn't matter whether CFS is an effective student lobbying group. The myopic vision of those people in Yes-CFS will render little except disrespect for this group.

And this could have been avoided. Yes-CFS should have had the foresight to say, "we don't agree with the ruling, but we believe in CFS."

"We're going to win at the polls in February because we are right."

But they never did this. They opted instead to whine and gripe.

When Mike Walker's presidency was overturned by the DIE Board in February of 1982 he had enough respect for the student governmental system to accept the Board's decision.

It doesn't matter that Walker lost; he showed more grace than the hacks of '83.

Ken Lenz

Stern warning

The West German magazine *Stern* lost 10 per cent of its circulation after publishing the forged "Hitler Diaries" earlier this year.

The *Washington Post* said the diary incident was motivated by a "desire not to expand the historical record" but to win the championship of this (newspaper) competition with hype.

The *Post* was criticizing from experience; they ran a story about an eight-year-old heroin addict that turned out to be fictionalized.

So it is with this inauspicious introduction about the press that I can now tell you something about the *Gateway*.

The *Gateway* may disappoint you if you expect an ideologically charged student press.

The *Gateway* has serious, if at times erratic, journalistic ambitions.

The *Gateway* invites you to our staff meetings, held every Thursday at 4:00 PM in Room 282 SUB.

And so this cleverly disguised appeal for help comes to a close.

B.J.



"Fear not, trusting consumer, with the use of my parliamentary power, I, Metric Man, will once again defeat that imperialistic measurement."

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

**This is not a test!
This is a Headline.
Repeat, this is not a test,
This is a Headline!**

RE: Abuse of Parking Permits.

Recently Campus Security has encountered incidents of stolen Parking Permits being used on other vehicles, as well, in a recent incident, a forged permit has also been discovered on a vehicle here.

I wish to stress the illegality of such actions and the risk being taken by those who abuse the system. Parking Permits can only be obtained legally from Parking Services and holders are not authorized to sell them privately. Persons using stolen or forged permits risk criminal prosecution that may seriously affect their future. It's just not worth it.

W.F.G. Perry, Director
Campus Security and Parking Services

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2, 4, 6, 8, Let
the Commies radiate

In the Nov. 27 issue of *Gateway*, in "Jean Cote Junction", the "military genius" Gilbert Bouchard gives out some advice. He says that we should "disarm unilaterally". That is one of the stupidest ideas I ever heard.

Suppose that the Americans and their allies do disarm. What if the Russians decide to bomb us to death instead of taking over the world with conventional weapons? That is just the situation Gilbert Bouchard thought disarmament would prevent.

In fact, the presence of American nuclear weapons is preventing the Russians from using their nuclear weapons. Now suppose the Russians invaded and defeated the free world rather than destroying it. The Soviet empire might not "collapse under its own weight" as predicted. Even if it does, it could be hundreds or thousands of years from now. The only reason the Spartans, Persians, and Egyptians "vanished centuries ago" is because of external opposition. If the Russians conquered the world,

there would be no such opposition.

Never underestimate the Russians. I don't believe Bouchard has heard about the Ukrainian Famine of 1933, which was perpetrated by his friends, the Russians. (Although I have seen articles in the *Gateway* about El Salvador, Grenada, and even Vietnam, there was not a single article about the 1933 Famine). The only reason the Russians are not killing, torturing, and mutilating the entire populations of Poland, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, East Germany, Ukraine, Kazakhstan, Lithuania, Afghanistan, and the many other colonies of Russia is because such actions may cause retaliation by the Western Powers. At least the Western Allies and their weapons are keeping Russia partially under control.

If Gilbert Bouchard wants to sacrifice himself to the Russians "to prevent world destruction", he may. Millions of people (including the author of this letter) have different ideas on how to prevent world destruction.

Blaine Manyuk
Engineering I

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CFS: Stamp on DIE

Because of the fact that I was congratulated in Student Council by a student representative for driving back the Socialist hordes etc., etc. I would like to clarify why I took the CFS referendum to DIE Board.

The main reason was that I saw some student representatives (who were on the Yes campaign) misrepresenting what CFS was all about. They never once mentioned the 3/1 split of the \$4 that they wanted the students to pay. When they did talk about the political side of CFS, they led the students to believe that the political side was just CFS representatives lobbying for better education.

When I told some Yes CFS people to tell the students the whole truth, they said it was the No CFS (which doesn't exist) campaigners responsibility to do so. When I heard this, I decided to tell the students the truth. However, the CRO, Glen Byer, said that I was not allowed to do anything. When I went to the SU Executive offices to get this misunderstanding straightened out, I found that I, as a student, had no rights. I did not have freedom of speech, or the freedom to express myself. I met a few other people that wanted to tell the students the

gateway
Nov. 24, Vol. 74, No. 21

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Staff this issue:

Terry Lindberg and Ian Ferguson got the Gilbertologists into fitness last night when Jim Moore, Neal Watson, and Brenda Waddle decided to jog down University Avenue while Shane Berg, Maureen Bourke and Georgeann McInerney did aerobics to Jordan Peterson's favourite opera. Patrice Struyk, George Koch, Nate LaRoi, and Kevin Arthur were disgusted and spent the rest of the evening in the Arts (Entertainment) Building 'looking at and listening to things.'

Sarah Hickson dropped a barbell on her foot and Suzette Chan tried to lift it off while Algard watched in amusement.