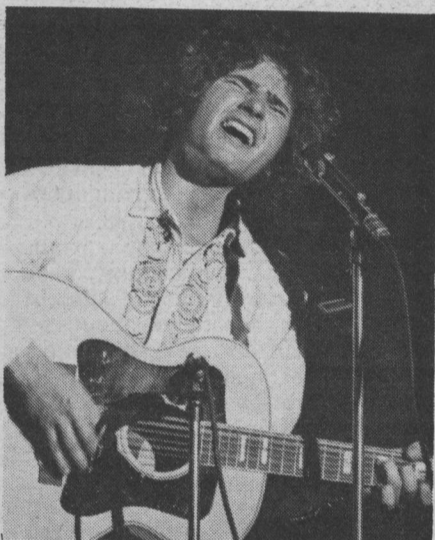


# 1969-70

Without a doubt, the most memorable event of the 1969/1970 school year was the Great Amchitka Protest.

As many will remember, the protest stemmed from a decision by the Pentagon to test an atomic bomb at Amchitka, a part of the Aleutian islands in the Bering Sea. Fearing atomic fallout and irreversible environmental damage, protestors from all over the Western world were blocking border crossings, picketing government buildings and airports and causing as much trouble as possible.

Dr. Benjamin Spock appeared on the U of A campus on September 30, 1969 to give his full blessing to the Edmonton protestors; External Affairs Minister Mitchell Sharp sent a telegram offering his support, too. Naturally, the U of A students' council waffled before taking a stand on the issue, and the blast was okayed by the U.S. government before Council was able to discuss the matter.



The late Tim Buckley, American folk-rocker, came to campus in 1969.

While on campus, Dr. Spock devoted most of his speaking to what had become his favorite topic, the Vietnam War. A famous and loved American baby doctor, Spock had become a fervent anti-war dissident in the late Sixties, getting involved in public speaking and other activities which led to legal hassles and his being tagged a "Commie."

Speaking in Dinwoodie Lounge, Spock told U of A students, "The majority of Americans would like to think that what they don't like is caused by communism. It's paranoia when a nation says we are not the aggressor — they are. My belief is that the Vietnam war is illegal and immoral."

Anti-war protest continued on campus with the November 15 protest rally staged by the End the War in Vietnam movement, Edmonton chapter. A "Moratorium Rally" was held in SUB Theatre the day before the march and the late Richard Frucht, a professor of anthropology at the U of A, told a capacity crowd, "My allegiance does not lie with those responsible for oppression. We have to oppose imperialism, and in turn, capitalism."

Meanwhile, on the same weekend, plans were finalized for a visit by Black Panther spokesman Fred Hampton.

Panther historians will recall that Hampton was the one arrested for robbing an ice-cream truck of three ice-cream bars, which he distributed to a group of ghetto children.

Out on bail at the time, Hampton's visit stirred a lot of trouble as a small number of the Dinwoodie audience baited Hampton in an amazingly John Savard-like manner.

An American foreign student lectured Hampton on law and order and then challenged him "to step outside." Hampton replied, "We don't want any fighting here, this isn't the time or place."



Dr. Benjamin Spock speaks to students on the evils of the war in Vietnam.

Hampton and his Panther associates spoke in classrooms too the week of November 20, repeating their theme of "all power to the people, all the people."

Another social issue arose in January 1970, when the Boston Pizza on Whyte Avenue and 109 Street refused to serve hippies. Management banned long hair, and the matter became really knotted when two student councillors and the president of the Alberta Association of Students were victimized by the pizzeria's policy. A boycott was organized, and BP soon reformed its

policy.

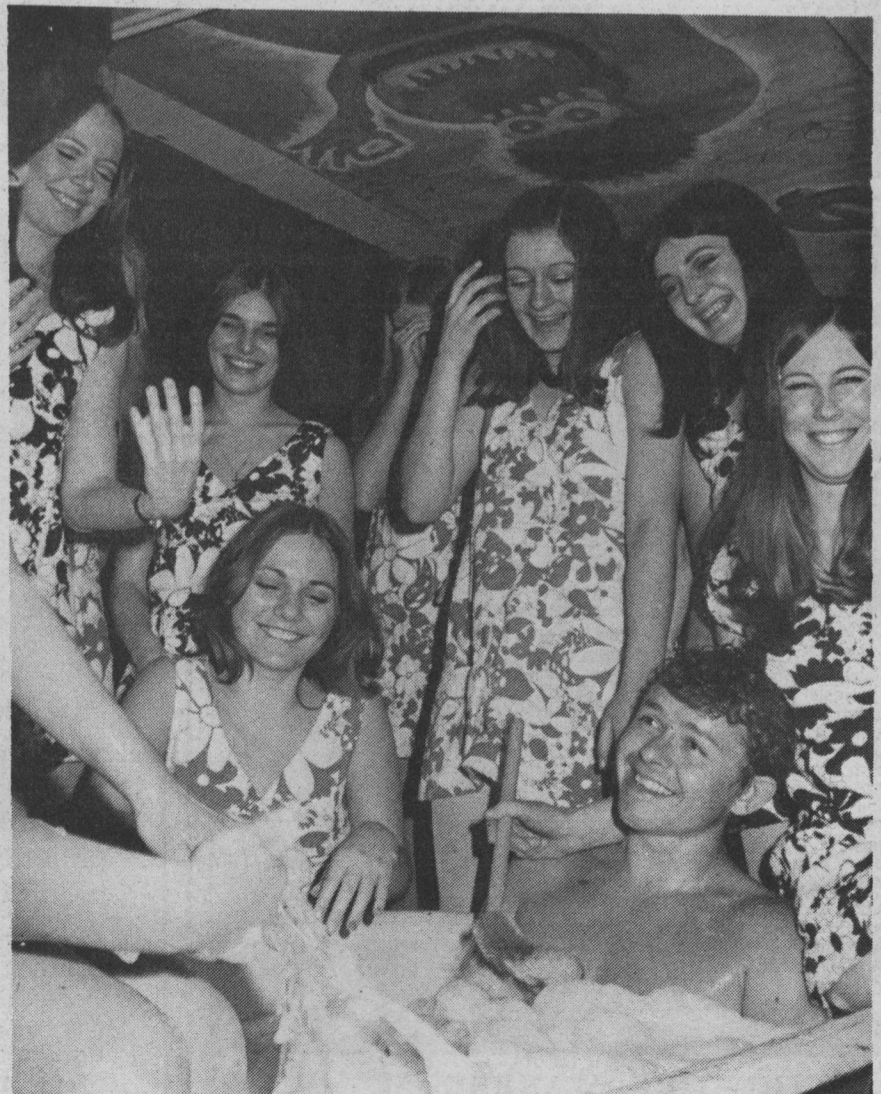
Internal hassles arose when the university administration censored the front page of the March 4 edition of *The Gateway*, protecting students from photos thought to be "demeaning" to the image of the university. The photos dealt facetiously with a social being sponsored by the Law faculty.

The administration backed down on its censorship, and the remainder of the year passed sadly without incident.

by Gordon Turtle



Part of a national coordinated protest against the American war effort.



Fraternities haven't changed much in ten years. Even then, they liked to make fools of themselves.