

You realize of course that this means war...

At the beginning of the year I was searching for a place on this campus that I could call a good study room, with some pleasant people to chat with. It so happened that I stumbled across a 'Student Common Room' on the fifth floor of the Physics Building. I then found this room was occupied by Geophysicists and some mathematicians. They didn't bother with me or mind my presence, so I made myself at home by leaving my books and coat there during classes, just as they did. Things seemed to be off to a good start and they were very helpful when I had problems with my homework.

This past month things have taken a drastic turn. I came into the room to find my books put on the floor, notices stating that only third and fourth year physics students may enter, excluding pre-med students (me), and to sign a guest book, but stating no guests allowed.

Russkies still marching

The *Gateway*, in an editorial of March 5, stated that "the generally aggressive stance of current US foreign policy reminds one of the child who had to put his hand on the stove to convince himself it will hurt." Furthermore, the editorial's tone hinted that the US would be to blame if there were a nuclear war.

Perhaps the *Gateway* should avail itself of the causes of the U.S.'s more assertive foreign policy — the actions of the Soviet Union:

- 1) Invasion of Afghanistan;
- 2) Threatened invasion of Poland: "...will not abandon fraternal socialist Poland in its hour of need."
- 3) Deployment of SS-20 missiles in Europe at a rate of one per five days.
- 4) Propaganda beamed at Iran in an attempt to wreck the US's efforts to free its hostages;
- 5) Propaganda attempts to split NATO: hints that East and West Germany could someday reunite and the recent summit proposal.
- 6) Threats against Iran: "...if Tehran cannot protect the embassy, the Soviet Union will undertake the task."

I could also have mentioned the USSR's huge defense budget, its edge in ground forces, and its support of Libya, "that paragon of radical lunacy," which recently annexed the Chad. I don't recall any of these things ever being

So by whose authority am I to be kicked out of the Student Common Room? And why have I been allowed to stay there for three months without any complaints and all of a sudden I'm being blackballed? And who ever is leaving their nasty little hints, so I may stumble upon them, better spit the shit, for I feel my presence there is not harming or offending anyone. I am there to work and to use what is rightfully mine offered by the U of A, and I will continue to use the Common Room — Geo's or no Geo's.

Nancy Gaveronski
Science I
Philip Kalmanovitch
Science I
Paula Tessaro
Education I
Mary Naslund
Home Economics II
Carol Naslund
Science I

mentioned in the *Gateway*. The US's policies are necessary because it is better to put one's hand on a stove than it is to put them up.

Nicolas Dimic
Arts II

READER COMMENT by Katherine Orrell

I have had enough of misinformed people writing about the proposed student housing in North Garneau. It would seem that most of the people in support of the campaign against the new housing have no idea what sort of housing is being proposed, what the concerns of the University are in putting up that housing, and what kind of property North Garneau is.

The University will be hosting the World Student Games in 1983, and needs housing for those games. It has so far put forward two proposals, the first being a phased construction beginning with alley in-fill and eventually covering the three blocks from 87th Avenue north between 110th and 111th Streets; the second now being to cover only the periphery of that area.

This plan involves a number of houses, three to four storeys high, made of wood or brick, each one a type of miniature apartment complex with four-man, two-man, and one-man units all opening off a central hall. The units would be larger and more commodious than HUB units, and with the central common area would maintain the sense of a small community similar to that of a co-op house. These houses, we have been assured, would be constructed to suit the atmosphere of North Garneau, even

down to keeping the trees; and certain of the best houses now standing (at this moment a proposed thirteen along the stretch designated) would be preserved and renovated.

The University in making this proposal has taken into consideration the needs and wants of students and our concern for the environment of North Garneau. They are offering new, pleasant housing of a top-class kind, which would be in keeping with the present residential nature of North Garneau but would provide for 650 students, twice the number living there now. No concrete rabbit hutches. No wasteful destruction of beautiful buildings.

Those who claim that North Garneau should be preserved for its beauty should look again. The houses there are tumble-down, grotty, and surrounded by concrete car parks; the few really nice buildings the University is offering to preserve. The best parts of Garneau are the areas outside the University property and will be unaffected by any construction.

Again, we have to remember that, though the present run-down state of the University houses is undoubtedly the University's fault, the property was bought in the first place, and was always intended for academic

expansion. In other words, for the construction of more buildings like Humanities, Fine Arts, or (shriek!) Biological Sciences or parking lots. The property, particularly the riverside portion, is very valuable. Now, all of a sudden, because of the World Student Games, the University is willing to use that part of the property for the construction of student housing, for the benefit of students and the Garneau community as a whole.

I ask students to consider the very real value of new student housing in North Garneau. So many are being bulldozed by a campaign based on inaccurate and incomplete information into thinking that the complete destruction of North Garneau is at hand. Most of the 1500 people who signed the petition did so with the understanding that the whole area was to be razed, and indeed, when I questioned the people at the table, they were as misinformed as anyone else.

I perfectly understand the concern of students for the preservation of the area, but I think support of the new housing is the best way to do it — for then we preserve the residential atmosphere, and at the same time make a new and positive contribution to the housing situation which can only be of benefit to students.

Studio Theatre enchants a loyal fan

What I am writing to you about is not in condemnation of international affairs, in support of a sporting event, or in retaliation of a remark made by one of your staff. I am writing to you to express my gratitude and the gratitude of many others for a remarkable season of rich and inspiring productions at the University of Alberta's Studio Theatre.

The theater community of Edmonton is a healthy and increasingly fat one and we are one of the few centers who can boast of such a widely-based and diffuse representation of theater. We are not constantly deluged by mindless and uncertain comedies of the sixties and mediocre samplings of the classics.

Edmonton theater can afford to take risks. If that does not mean taking new plays and new styles and giving them the credence they must have to be experienced properly,

then that means taking the established plays and making them new and meaningful. The audience has a right to expect a true representation of the text and a strong representation of an interpretation of those words (right or wrong). Unfortunately, most professional theaters in this city like to play it safe because they feel that is where the money is. Perhaps that is true, but why then the

success this year of Studio Theatre's fourth year B.F.A. class and the plays they serviced.

Although the selections of plays for the class seem to be safe and benign, the productions themselves were new and exhilarating and I attribute this to the class. The eleven students may be criticized for their performances in the three plays presented but I doubt anyone would deny the commitment and energy given to each role and interpretation of that role. The energy from this class has charged the failing batteries of my wincing eyes and clapping hands. Risks were taken and that itself is an art to be explored sensitively by an actor in his/her first mainstage roles.

My enchantment with these eleven began with Shakespeare's "A Midsummer's Night Dream," followed by a timeless and inspiring exposure to Brendan Behan's "The Hostage," and finally a controversial rendition of Brecht's "A Threepenny Opera" which closed last Saturday. All three productions moved and possessed me and I couldn't help thinking of the long, dry summer ahead of me as I watched the final show wind down. In that summer we will search and search for some theatrical satisfaction and I will content myself in recalling some bright images from

those three plays. It does not matter, really. Whether I remember the plays or not, I will be richer for having seen them.

Studio Theatre is only midseason at this time. Yet to come will be three more promising productions and after that whole new season with other fourth year B.F.A. students, but those eleven I have mentioned will be absent or divided. They will finish the school year with a film-project with the National Film Board. Afterwards, they will separate and infiltrate the world of unions, billing, auditions and wages. Perhaps the last word, "wages" says more than anything about this class. Their love and dedication and commitment to the plays had no price-tag attached. They worked for free... to learn and submerge into words, story and lives upon the paper.

So let us thank them and repay them for some of the opulent gifts they gave us and in thanking them, let us thank those who worked with them and instructed them in their work. Thank you Julie Brown, Francis Damberger, Michele Fleiger, Neil Foster, Paul Gross, Ellen Kennedy, Dan Libman, Dugald Nasmith, Kathy Neilson, Alan Penty and Michael Van der Lee. Thank you so much.

Michael McKinlay

Thieves in the shadows

With springtime rapidly approaching and the use of bicycles being more common on campus, it is urged that bicycle owners pay particular attention to the security of their bikes when being parked on campus.

A good strong lock should be utilized to secure the bicycle and efforts made not to have the bicycle parked for any undue

length of time without frequent checking.

Members of the campus community are reminded that Campus Security will engrave and register the bicycles with the City of Edmonton Loss Prevention Program at no charge. All that is necessary is to contact Campus Security to arrange to have this done.

A further concern is evident and that is the ongoing theft of wallets and purses that are left unattended in offices even for a short period of time. Members of the campus community are reminded that when offices are left unlocked and valuables are left therein, there is always the possibility of theft.

Any suspicious activities in the buildings should be reported to Campus Security at 432-5252 in order that the matter may be followed up.

W.F.G. Perry
Director
Campus Security and Traffic

LETTERS

Letters to the *Gateway* should be a maximum of 250 words on any subject. Letters must be signed and include faculty, year and phone number. Anonymous letters will not be published. All letters must be typed, though we will reluctantly accept them if they are very neatly written. We reserve the right to edit for libel and length. Letters do not necessarily reflect the views of the *Gateway*.

