

# The Gateway

THE GATEWAY is the newspaper of the students of the University of Alberta. It is published by the Students' Union twice weekly during the winter session on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Contents are the responsibility of the editor, opinions are those of the person expressing them. Letters to the editor on any subject are welcome, but must be signed. Please keep them short: letters should not exceed 200 words.

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## editorial

Campus cops are nice people, don't you think? They walk around and smile a lot, hardly ever abuse anyone and, if you happen to do something illegal, they don't wear guns, so one doesn't have to worry about them too much. Fact is, campus cops aren't very important in the campus hierarchy or the law enforcement hierarchy. But they sure think they are.

Take for instance our Tuesday story on campus theft. Campus cops couldn't give us details about the story. Why? Well, as director of security C.A. Breakey explained, "that's my policy." Well that's okay, we got that information from more cooperative people who used their heads.

But Wednesday afternoon we tried to get some information about the incidence of sexual assault on campus. What happened? First it was "please hold" for ten minutes, which we got around by calling back a couple of times. Then a woman constable told us "We are not allowed to release that form of information." Why not? "I don't know." Well, what if a dangerous situation is developing on campus and we should be warning people about it? "I'm sorry, we are not allowed..." Not allowed to what - warn people?

No wonder students ignore the green-uniformed guards who masquerade as a "campus security force." Puffed by the pettiness of a sometimes insignificant job, they have to try and invent importance by with-holding information which might be valuable to the campus community. If sexual assault is a problem at the U of A, there are at least 10,000 good reasons why campus security should tell us about it.

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Some people on campus are mighty upset. So upset, in fact, that they vent their frustrations by vandalizing campus property. It's hard to tell whether increasing academic pressures, or increasing economic pressures, are behind the sudden surge in destruction. But Students' Union officials, while they can't tell us the cause, can tell us that this has been one of the worst — in a series of bad — years for vandalism damage to SUB; and you can see signs of vandalism everywhere around the campus, from chemistry labs to the HUB Arts Court Lounge.

People should understand that one of the reasons vandalism is growing on our campus is because passive observers tacitly support a vandal's actions. That's why when a crowd of people leave a Dinwoodie Social and one drunken rowdy happens to smash a window, no one reports it and he/she begins to think it's somehow acceptable to react "against the system."

There might be some fatuous argument you could make that vandalism against a university building is getting your licks in at the system, but for students to vandalize their own building (because vandalism in SUB is caused mainly by students), seems pretty stupid. The vandal, eventually has to pay for the damage. And the passive observer who won't do anything about the vandalism, will also pay — as well as live with the fact that he or she has encouraged senseless destruction by not trying to stop it.

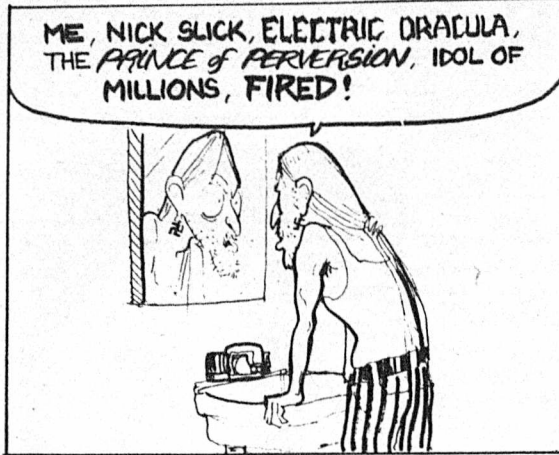
by Kevin Gillese

WHAT DID YOU DO IN SCHOOL TODAY, DEAR?...

WELL, FIRST WE WERE ALL FINGERPRINTED, THEN OUR PHOTOS WERE TAKEN FOR OUR ID CARDS, THEN WE HAD TO ANSWER QUESTIONS ON HOW YOU AND DADDY VOTED... OH WE SPENT A FEW MINUTES TALKING ON "FREEDOM IN AMERICA"...



## BUB SLUG by Delaney & Rasmussen



## Foreign students - an "excuse"

The treatment of foreign students are exemplified by the proposed raising of tuition fees is in line with social darwinism having white, English-speaking people as the ultimate point. This is a thread which has been winding its way through Canadian history long enough.

These ideas were expressed at the "Immigrant Experience in Western Canada" conference held by the Student Christian Movement in Saskatoon at Christmas.

From discussion there, it appears that "foreigners" — the immigrants, the foreign students — are being chosen to blame for problems in Canada they are not responsible for.

Thinking "foreigners" cause big problems in Canada keeps people distracted from other more basic problems. They are kept from asking important questions about what is really going on here.

What does it mean to live in this land? To be Canadian is to be English. Immigration officers changed people's names and other individuals were quietly

shamed into changing their names because they did not sound "Canadian."

In changing a name and denying one's own history an essential part of the self is lost. This point was expressed by Rudy Wiebe as well as other resource people at the conference.

We have little to be proud of in our history. Our treatment of the first immigrants to this land,

our treatment of anyone who maintains a different culture than our own illustrates how arrogantly we push our second-hand American culture on to other people.

We have lost touch with ourselves. It is time we begin to question and act upon to change what our culture is and what has done to other people here in Canada and in the world.

Kathy Pa  
 Student Christian Movement

## Res life - good, clean fun

It would appear that what we have been told most of our lives is true after all: University is good clean fun. Take life in Residence for instance. We Res students really have a good time here on weekends, what with organized events like socials and such. If by chance, however, these should leave us dissatisfied, we have a core of dedicated (and anonymous) practical jokers whose keen humour keeps us "rolling in our seats" as it were.

Let me tell you of this weekend, for example. Ski trips having reduced the number of

weekend revellers somewhat, our cheery little friends work around the clock to provide those of us remaining here with source of amusement.

Picture this if you will: ... Mac's T.V. so covered with chemicals from a fire extinguisher that it is rendered permanently inoperative ... Mac Hall President Dan Kato's room literally flooded with water from a fire hose ...

Thanks so much, gang, yet another weekend of laughs and good cheer.

Rhona McAdam 7th Mac

## Clin. Sci. examined by E. Kwaik

I am writing this letter in response to the recent decision to put university funds into the repairing of the Clinical Sciences building. I believe students should be made aware that troubles experienced with the Clinical Sciences building are the result of displacement. Dr. E. Kwaik, a noted earthquakeologist who makes numerous math errors states that the building is suffering from "displacement of its decimal point." The life expectancy is not 75-100 years as stated in Gateway Vol. LXVII No. 31, but rather 7.5-10.0 years; it therefore

follows that repairs will not cost 1.5 million but 15 million. Does it not seem foolish to spend such a large sum on repairing a building that has exceeded its warranty?

R.E. Phillips, vice-president of planning and development, has explained the cause of the swinging panels as reduced air pressure on the outside due to high winds. It has come to my attention that the cause was not as Mr. Phillips stated but rather due to the opening of an upstairs window by one Fohx E. Laydie (not her real name) to cool down the room after a heated exchange (that's all good taste allows us to

state) with someone in a secluded office. The increased interior pressure caused the panels to swing out.

Is it possible that Mr. Phillips was the exchangee and he created the wind story in order to cover for himself? Does it really matter? Someone must be executed and since it can't be Mr. Laydie (for obvious reasons), the tribunal (myself, a Mr. Christ and the Holy Ghost we dragged down the street) has selected Mr. Phillips.

Colonel Mephilt  
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