

If you insist Colin...

Gorilla attacks Gateway ex-ed.

In reply to Lindsay Brown's letter, Gateway, Jan. 13, 1977, please note:

1. My article on the energy crisis was not an "unsolicited opinion" — it was an article which for Gillese and I discussed in November, before it was written. It was an article, not a letter, when submitted, and thus shouldn't come under the 200 word limit.

2. Quote: "Whether or not news agrees, that is what news is, a report of an event — not an opinion of an event." My article stated and argued a thesis, and wasn't supposed to be news. All newspapers contain a great deal of writing that is not "news."

3. The Berger article is a separate issue, and besides I have no objection to the way it was rewritten.

4. I "attacked," quote, Gillese and Co., not just the editor, as Miss Brown asserts.

5. Quote: "The energy crisis must be based upon quantitative facts." Just one of the meaningless sentences which appeared in my article, but which I didn't write.

6. Miss Brown calls my letter "personal attack." Guerilla is the correct adjective. Suggested for this letter: "Gorilla attacks Gateway ex-Editor."

Colin Ross
Commerce 2

Note: This is, I hope, the last word on the matter. The charges Miss Brown brings against the editorial staff of the paper need some explanation if only because of the questions they raise about "objectivity" in the media, and accessibility to the student media on this campus. Ross, like anyone else on this campus, is free to submit any writing he

wishes to this newspaper. It will be published, if it might be of interest to students and does not libel or defame anyone. If, however, the length, detail and/or point of view of the submission is such that the piece will not be read by many people, the editors may choose to publish the work on the letters-to-the-editor pages. But whether the submission is printed on news, features, or op./ed. pages, no writer will be given as much space as he/she wishes, but rather how much their work merits.

I find Premier Peter Lougheed's newly-found interest in education interesting in that it seems to imply the time has come to quit "squandering" our money on universities and get ourselves back to the basics in elementary and secondary education.

I believe our beloved Mr. Lougheed is preparing to deliver yet another blow to post-secondary education in the province. The rumours are that he will not grant money for three new buildings on campus because he wishes to reduce the size of our campus to 16,000 students and is prepared to do that by upping tuition fees steadily for the next four years.

It seems plausible, doesn't it, when it costs the government money while they delay in the construction of the buildings.

And of course, they have already begun the tuition hikes — first a general one last year, this year a differential for foreign students ... perhaps next year differentials for out-of-province and quota faculty students

These remarks are merely to explain a general policy of this paper; with regards to the article in question, Colin is quite correct in remarking that it was intended as a "feature" article. However, he might remember that when we discussed how the article should be written, in November, I asked him to keep the article short and bright since long features, unless written extremely well, are not generally read. The article we received at the beginning of this month was long, opinionated to an extreme, and detailed to the

(higher than they are already assessed). There will definitely be another general increase this year (what with utilities increase of 18 per cent and a government funding increase of only eight or nine per cent).

Of course, Bert Hohol is busy telling everyone in the province that he is the minister for advanced education, not *against* it. That's what he tells everyone (when he's not taking 25 minutes to side-step a straight-forward question about education policy) but it doesn't seem to be very true. The minister makes unilateral decisions (with no consultation from universities, at all), embarrasses himself in public by blurting out inanities, confusing topics and otherwise showing people clearly the level of his intelligence, and then threatens both staff and students on cam-

The inept sociology department has once again blundered into a separate reality. The course registered as Sociology 344 "public opinion and mass media" was scheduled for Thursday evenings in TB 39. On arriving at the classroom stated in the in-person registration manual, we were treated to a miracle of miracles. A class of eager and keen students but no professor. Where was this man that would reveal the mysteries of media manipulation? Some of the more faithful students remained till seven o'clock in the belief that the chosen one would appear. But to no avail; the end result being one week of classes wasted.

Upon further investigation regarding this incident it was stated that the professor was unable to make the classroom

point of boredom. I decided to run the article as a letter-to-the-editor because most people, I think, if they wished to read this sort of thing about the energy crisis would likely pick up a copy of Udall's *The Energy Balloon* for example. There is no need to print a *precis* of Udall's work on our pages.

Ross' article was prohibitive in length, therefore the need for editing. The headline, which Ross calls "idiotic", was modified from a quotation by Mark Twain, and relates to the warning tone in

pus when they disagree with his rapid idiocies (the threatening this time around is tuition hikes for all students and less money for academic staff unless ...).

And so it goes in our

Sitting in on classes

Everyone at the U of A is familiar with the problem of overcrowded classes. At the commencement of one Geography class this term, there were some twenty-five or thirty students standing in the aisles or hallways during a lecture in the Tory theatre. The prof spoke to the timetabling people about it and they replied that we should remain in the overcrowded room for a few more classes because "some of the students will drop out or transfer." In fairness to the timetabling people, a different

Ross' article. The reference by Ms. Brown to the re-write necessary for the Berger article was intended to illustrate Ross' propensity for opinionated effusion. Etc.

We will continue to publish students' offerings as we have in the past — when, in a senior editor's judgement, they are stylistically well-written, intelligently thought-out, and factually substantiated. Anything other than that will be printed as a letter-to-the-editor, or, if totally absurd or otherwise offensive, not at all.

enlightened province. All hail Peter Lougheed, for whom we are about to die (by drowning in the smug complacency of our oil-rich suburbia).

E. Blair Comp. Lit.

room was assigned, after some of the students had dropped out or transferred.

If standing in the aisles and hallways during a class is deemed acceptable for geographers, certainly sitting on the floor as well, is acceptable to no one. Such was the case at a recent class held for the benefit of the functionally illiterate, in the Humanities Centre. Perhaps the administration feels that anyone who cannot write like Francis Bacon does not deserve to sit in a chair like other people.

Duane Muyres

Sociology blunders media course

because he was told it was in a different room and that the course was scheduled for next week.

This "story" was repeated to us on the tragic evening of Jan. 13 when two heads from the sociology department encountered us in the same classroom TB 39. They then recited a spiel that due to the extenuating circumstances beyond their control the professor normally scheduled was unavailable. This meant that the programme (course) was cancelled.

Since the date for registration had already lapsed, they were kind enough to funnel us into already existing sociology courses. For some of us this meant two weeks of classes missed. For others it meant coming into a previous class

where I am certain several professors were intrigued about having new people in the classes. (If one wishes to meet the course requirements for the year in order to graduate one must take what is left.) For other students who did not want another sociology course, coat-tails were to be grasped at for an exception and late registration.

The point I am making is that the sociology department if it is to offer a course such as public opinion and mass media, must first learn how to use it. Was it not possible to state the status of the course at an earlier time through the use of the media? We are sure that the Gateway or CKSR or the telephone would have made it a lot easier for the many persons involved in this incident.

P.R. Lockhart
Arts II

Chemistry undergrads dump toxins down drain

Last week, Chemistry 202 students completed an experiment in which they were asked to identify a number of metals in solution, including lead, cadmium, and mercury. At the end of the experiment, a number of the students asked about disposal of the lead, cadmium and mercury compounds they had made, and were told to wash them down the drain.

While it is true that the quantity of metal involved was very small, it still seems to be the irresponsible of the chemistry department to tell

twelve hundred budding chemists that it is alright to pour heavy metals down a drain and into a river. Industrial chemists, who dispose of their employers' wastes in the same way have caused enough trouble as it is; we don't need more who take the same approach to disposal.

The chemistry department should impress upon its students (and itself) that some compounds are dangerous, and should be disposed of carefully and safely.

Bruce Fatcher
Science 2

JOE MUTTON SPEAKS OUT

All the news that's pit to frint

Ed. note: We received the following unsolicited column from Frank Mutton's brother Joe, who lives in Kelowna. Joe feels that his older brother has been in the limelight too long, and so has asked Frank to step aside this week. Frank will return when Joe tells him where he hid the hearing aid.

Rumour has it that Peter Lougheed and his big blue Bonanza has finally resolved the dilemma over foreign student financial policy. As one anonymous bureaucrat told me: "The idea is workcamps, you know, like Cuba except here we'd go easier on the poor buggers."

He went on to explain that foreign students would be expected to work for tuition by meeting a quota of hourly labour in any of a number of unskilled occupations.

"Dammit," a certain government official confided in me, "it could be the start of something fantastic...Synchrude...the

pipeline...even another railway...we could build them all at near-minimal cost...replace costly machine power with foreign students...

"After all," he said in closing, "you just have to give 'em a pail and then point."

Problems, problems, problems...it seems Joe Clark our illustrious leader of Her Majesty's Loyal Opposition certainly has his share of them these days.

Mr. Clark, whose biggest problem until now has been a painful degree of anonymity, is suddenly a sensation.

"We just can't keep up with the orders anymore," says Slade Wyman, executive president of the Ace Novelty Company which has sole distribution rights on Clark paraphernalia...Joe Clark T-shirts, buttons, hand-painted ties and costume jewellery. "Everybody wants them. We're now thinking about an action pose doll and autographed bikini briefs."

Wyman hinted at the possibilities of a country and western recording contract and a feature-length movie, but described these as "iffy" propositions.

What's behind this sudden phenomenal surge of publicity that has catapulted Clark to super stardom.

"It's charisma...I'm sure of it," explains Cindy Longtree, a seventh grade cheerleader from Bow River. "He's, he's just got it, I guess." Her friends agree and have formed the executive body of the rapidly growing Joe Clark fan club.

"So far we've got 80,000 members and that number will go nowhere but up," giggled Cindy over a cherry soda. "Yeah, I guess the members are pretty young, mostly girls aged 10 to 15, but we all love him," she sighed.

Mr. Clark has refused to comment on his sudden popularity and is keeping out of the way of large crowds.