

editorial

Big changes this weekend: year end inventories, seventeen-cent stamps, a new SU executive, election fever, Patty Hearst-Shaw, Maggie on mescaline, real radioactivity in Pennsylvania.

But at Gateway the biggest news was the unceremonious return of our morgue file sometime between Friday evening and Monday evening. They'd been missing since 1972.

We've got our bound copies at last. They are our link with the past, and after months of futile negotiations, they have proven to be worth the wait. Fifty-odd years of the U of A's history are chronicled in the student press. Names, now famous, popping innocently out of the news; places, well known, described in other times.

We spent most of yesterday pouring over the brittle pages, searching for the most outrageous advertisements, the most dated campus issues, the most naive news coverage. We wanted a good laugh. Confident in our superior knowledge, techniques, and attitudes we felt we had a different approach to campus news—a better one.

Well, we did find a lot to laugh at. There were ads for "lingerie" that questioned whether yours was worth being taken in a panty-raid. A "Campus Quiz" gave lessons in campus etiquette eg. "How to treat your date." Patriotism reached satiric heights during the second world war. In the early fifties a young president Loughheed called for better relations with Government and Sports!

But when the laughter subsided I felt that somehow we'd missed the point. In 1979 we are different of course, but as students we haven't changed.

When you think about it there's been plenty to laugh at in this year's Gateway too. Some of our "sophisticated" advertising is merely the seventies version of the "panty-raid" approach. Apathy/acclamation was as big a joke in the mid-thirties as it is now. Sports has always been a significant part of campus news. And issues. Did you know that an editorial discussing the viability of a National Union of Students appeared some fifty-three years ago? Maybe even earlier. (By the way Gateway supported it then, too.)

The point is, then, if we think we've changed fundamentally from our peers of other generations—we're wrong. The form of the Gateway has changed a little because of technology and better information processing but the content is remarkably similar.

Having our roots back at the Gateway offices is especially satisfying for me as I'm perceptibly losing the ground of my editorship. Those old issues make the last eight months more meaningful—this year we have all contributed to the perpetuation of something tangible. Before this the past existed only as a previous volume number.

So it was a big weekend. But things probably didn't change as much as they seemed. The university press is unique, and special. Now we know we won't change.

April fools.

Loreen Lennon

the Gateway

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If it happens on campus...it's news to us.

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First alert, fire-breathing, John Savard, Taras Ostashevsky, Kent is really sorry about everything Linda, Julie Green, Portia (who's quality is not strained), Rick Lawrence, moral support from Charlie and Edna, immoral support from Dr. Dinkhound, Jeffrey Wildman, Pat Frewer, the photo geniuses Russ SSampsson and Jimm Connell, the people in control Veronica and Maxine, Len Thom, Noshmoht Nosila, Dr. V.V. Maquabella (thanx for saving Willie), Amanda Le Rougetel, Jim and Winston the paperboys, Pat Frewer, Richard Desjardins (a real soul man), Mickey (need we say more?), Alex Tindimubona, and thanks to all the little people (anyone who looks up to me).

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Get the facts Gateway!

Warner miffed at lack of coverage DIE Board decision IS important

I would like to tender a statement to correct the inaccuracies involved in your March 23 article on the DIE Board hearing of March 24.

In several sections the article presents my name as the complainant, fortunately it does mention the others but I would like to point out that I did not even present the case.

Secondly, we did not lodge complaint based on the length of campaign but rather based on the illegal positioning of posters by the Fenna-Rankin slate on that particular election day.

In that we could not substantiate that the posters had any effect on the electorate, and despite the partiality of the returning office's position we

contended, successfully, that these two candidates violated bylaw 300-13 and less successfully that in doing that they violated bylaw 300-14-c and 300-14-d. These omissions reported to the returning office by 12:30 hrs. on the day of election, did not directly relate to the outcome of the election, and when the returning office did not act hearings were initiated with DIE Board.

Finally, with regard to the quoted statement that I was satisfied, there also the record needs to be set straight (Throwaway, why did you not cover this event?) My statement was that in acting as they have the DIE board has proceeded in analogy to the "Butler Laws" in the United States and with that I

am satisfied. To expand on this feel that the board demonstrated the relevancy themselves and some of the bylaws to students.

This decision has several ramifications, not the least which is to raise questions amongst which is why the Students' Union spends \$20 yearly to reimburse candidates for these posters. This is especially true in view of testimony from Mr. Fenna that posters "had only a marginal effect" according to a returning office witness "only create litter."

I wait to see a full copy of this landmark precedent reprinted in your newspaper under bylaw 3500.

K. Warner
Arts

Ecumenical Board should reconsider Bloody good!

The termination of Rev. Fletcher Stewart from the University of Alberta Chaplaincy is regrettable and a very disconcerting occurrence. The suggestions that Rev. Stewart is difficult to work with are equally disturbing, particularly when his helpfulness has so often been demonstrated.

Throughout his tenure at the U of A, Rev. Stewart has been actively involved in and supportive of a wide range of activities on campus. His contributions to campus life are great and it seems very shortsighted of the Ecumenical Chaplaincy Board to fire him, especially since the reasons given for the termination are indeed spurious.

I seriously hope that the Ecumenical Board reconsiders its decision and overrules it.

Cheryl Hume
SU president

The students' support of the Red Cross blood donor clinics this year has been tremendous. We would especially like to thank those people who spent so much time organizing and publicizing the clinics. Red Cross is particularly grateful for the excellent turnouts this year as there has been a substantial

increase in the demand for Edmonton blood donors.

We look forward to continued success at the University of Alberta.

Sandra Ramsay
Director
Blood Donor Recruitment

Cutting intercollegiate programs still not enough

Hugh Hoyles stated in an interview with the Gateway that "a lot of students ... would like to eliminate intercollegiate sports entirely." Not only do I think that intercollegiate programs should be dropped, but intramural programs as well. I do not think it the U of A's purpose to provide general recreation, or to foster rivalries, such as between the U of A and the U of C.

Better programs for general

recreational activities such as intramural program could be implemented at the community level, with necessary facilities being provided perhaps through the government's Heritage Trust Fund. After all, they're paying for the facilities at the U of A why should private citizens have to pay high membership fees for exclusive racquet-sports clubs and the like? Instruction could be provided at the community level.

There is no excuse, alternative, however, for the expansiveness of the intercollegiate programs at this, any other university. By comparison, the costs of the intramural programs seem significant. Perhaps students need what Hugh Hoyles calls 'identity' with the university, certainly this identity should be defined through the efforts of a good hockey team. If an average student gets a lift posing himself as a member of the university with the winningest hockey team, (or football, or basketball ...) perhaps that same student himself a loser. Perhaps the same student should concentrate himself more with his own efforts, to seek an 'identity' in his own relationship with the university. Then he won't feel so bad when the Golden Bears don't win the National championship year.

There is something fundamentally wrong in the concept of identifying oneself through the achievements of others, and by no means is this wrong confined to the universities.

Peter Michalski
Arts

Other side of Russia-anti-bolsheviks stir

I wrote this letter to point something out. Posters on campus have appeared, announcing a demonstration at the legislature on March 31st, one of whose purposes will be to demand greater accessibility of abortion to women.

One of the groups listed as endorsing this demonstration is the "Committee for the Defense of Soviet Political Prisoners." It was founded a couple of years ago by the joint efforts of the Young Socialists and the campus Ukrainian students' group.

Being liberal (and even left-wing) is not a disadvantage for such a group: it enhances their credibility (just as the fact that even I concede that South Africa is not nice makes the idea that it isn't nice very credible, or insulting the Catholic Church makes my pro-life letters more credible), and creates a less dangerous situation for dissidents that they contact (for example, in smuggling out literature).

However, their support for this rally underlines the need for another type of organization on campus: one to awaken the student body and Canadians in general about the nature of the Soviet system and one which advocates halting our present progress towards surrender.

There was such a group on campus once — The Anti-Bolshevik Youth League! (Yes, I know it's an awfully corny name ...) Anyhow, while I never joined it when it existed, later on I promised Ralph that I'd try to reactivate it. So far, I've only had time to put up a few posters on occasion, and haven't received too many replies ... if anyone out there is interested in getting together to help form such a group (we can change the name!), I can be reached at 434-7302. (End of free plug).

John Savard
Grad Studies

Ed. Note - Okay John, enough is enough.