

Pizza profitable

Since coming back to school, we've all been hearing about increases in prices and cutbacks in "service" by Housing and Food. Some of us in university housing who were already struggling to pay our school costs are now in deep, uh, Lister sausage.

The problem isn't with the people who prepare and serve the "food". True, doing a good job is more important to some of them than others, but the same is true for profs, students, and everyone else at the U of A. And the task of turning truckloads of primordial sludge into quasi-cuisine is a thankless and I suspect quite unpleasant task.

The problem, rather, seems to come from university administrators who never tire of saying, "You youngsters have to realize the university is a business, and has to make a profit just like any other business." This assertion and the attitude it reflects is self-serving, misguided, and ultimately harmful to the U of A.

The U of A is not a private business. If you need an analogy, it's much more like a public utility. The U of A was established by the government of Alberta and belongs to the people of the province. Its purpose is to provide a service to the entire province in a way no private business could or would want to. This purpose is not to return a profit to the provincial treasury. There are far more efficient means for doing that.

Public universities are a manifestation of the notion that education is a good thing, and the more of it there is, the better for

everyone. The idea is that all Albertans, and all Canadians, are better off because there is a place here where anyone can seek an education, where anyone can consult specialists with expertise in a broad range of topics, where these specialists can refine their knowledge, and where our diverse cultural heritage can be preserved and reflected upon. That is what the U of A is for, that is why the people of Alberta established it. And that is why taxpayers, students (many of whom are also taxpayers), and their parents (ditto) cough up the funds to operate the university.

There is nothing wrong with making money. But if Mr. Horowitz and his subordinates at Housing and Food are more concerned with making a profit — at our expense — remember — than in assuring that the university does (yes, efficiently) what the people created it to do, he and they should consider another line of work. I hear pizza franchises are quite profitable.

Jim Howland
Grad Studies

Frat talk

Frats are full of snobs... All they do is party... You know, it is Animal House every weekend. They have gold fish eating contests, right?

Fraternity talk... We have all heard it, but what are fraternities all about?

Like people, fraternities come

in all shapes and sizes, and there are many ways to learn about them: fraternity members, Rush, or the Interfraternity Council offices in the basement of SUB.

Each source gives a unique perspective on fraternities.

Although I am in my third year, I thought it was about time to learn about fraternities and see what they offer. I took part in Rush. Rush means touring the fraternities on campus, meeting the members, and deciding if fraternities are for you.

I discovered that fraternities were a lot more than parties. They do offer a social life, but they also offer friendship, sports involvement, scholarship and philanthropy (to worthy organizations).

I saw many people who benefited from fraternities and the benefits were numerous. For some from small towns, fraternities were a way to meet people. For others, fraternities were a way to get involved. Fraternities did have their benefits.

Despite the fact I did not join a fraternity, I would like to thank the U of A's Panhellenic Society for the opportunity to learn about fraternities. I would like to encourage anyone who has not given fraternities a fair chance to check them out.

You will never know if fraternities are for you — the true plusses and minuses — if you don't check them out. Don't let others decide for you. Decide for yourself. To go Greek or not to go Greek? That is the question.

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2	3	4	5	6	7	8
DESIGNATED DRIVER PROGRAM	NFL MONDAY NIGHT FOOTBALL	7:30 QUADROPHENIA TUESDAY IS MOVIE NIGHT 10:00 SID & NANCY	M I D W E E K	FOSTERS BEACH NIGHT	LET THE GOOD TIMES '60's & '70's CLASSIC ROCK N' ROLL	E C L E C T I C M U S I C N I G H T
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
THE RATT STAFF AND YOUR STUDENTS' UNION WISH YOU THE BEST OF TIMES ALL THE TIME	PRESENTS	7:30 EATING RAOUL 10:00 EASY RIDER	M A M W A D D I S	ROCK	5 DAILY BEER & DRINK SPECIALS	16
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
STUDENTS' UNION WISH YOU THE BEST OF TIMES ALL THE TIME	AMERICAN BEER NIGHT	7:30 GOOD MORNING VIETNAM 10:00 ANIMAL HOUSE	PEACH RASPBERRY STRAWBERRY BLUEBERRY BLACKBERRY	CLASSIC R & B	GREAT TUNES	CO-SPONSOR CJSR FM 88.5 LIVE MUSIC WHEN AVAILABLE
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
ENJOY YOUR SCHOOLING!	6 BRANDS AVAILABLE	7:30 STAR TREK I 10:00 STAR TREK II	ON SPECIAL ALL DAY BY THE GLASS OR BY THE PITCHER	GOOD PEOPLE	GREAT TIME	SUPPORT ALTERNATIVE RADIO

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