

Forum

Fraternities show their true colours

Every once in a blue moon the Gateway runs a colour edition and so the question falls on the shoulders of the photo editor: What is there on campus that might possibly be of interest to the whole campus and also worthy of printing in full colour? For no reason that I can think of even now, it occurred to me I had never set foot in a fraternity house and to do so with a camera might yield mildly amusing results.

I thought this would be a subject we could do a send-up on — you know, the Animal House treatment. But as I began I very quickly found myself being warmly received in the homes of a diverse collection of individuals who were united by the feeling that they were not being accurately perceived by the rest of the student body.

I had found a worthy subject. It was a very pleasant shoot. I found a wide variety of abodes and decorating styles; some very new, others needing attention, some institutional, many cozy, but all reflective of the wide variety of personalities they house. These were not just bear baiting pits with beer piped in (mind you, the site of the famed Thursday Night Parties comes close to that description).

More important than physical surroundings were attitudes conveyed about the positive aspects of living in a fraternity environment. The main feeling expressed was one of being part of a group and not alone against a monolith. This support system is not limited to just the members of a single fraternity, but extends between fraternities.

These associations are not just drinking clubs either. Emphasis is placed on cooperation to reduce living costs, to foster mutual support in academics, and to develop domestic and social responsibilities. Groups contribute to blood donor clinics and Big Brothers, etc. Some fraternities even own their own houses.

Don't get me wrong, fraternity parties do jump, and the phone company eventually asked them to put the phone booth back. But fraternities are worth more than just a sneer, they are worthy of being photographed and of being taken seriously as a positive part of this university.

Watch for the photos in an upcoming issue of the paper (and Laurel: No, we won't run that photo of your bedroom).

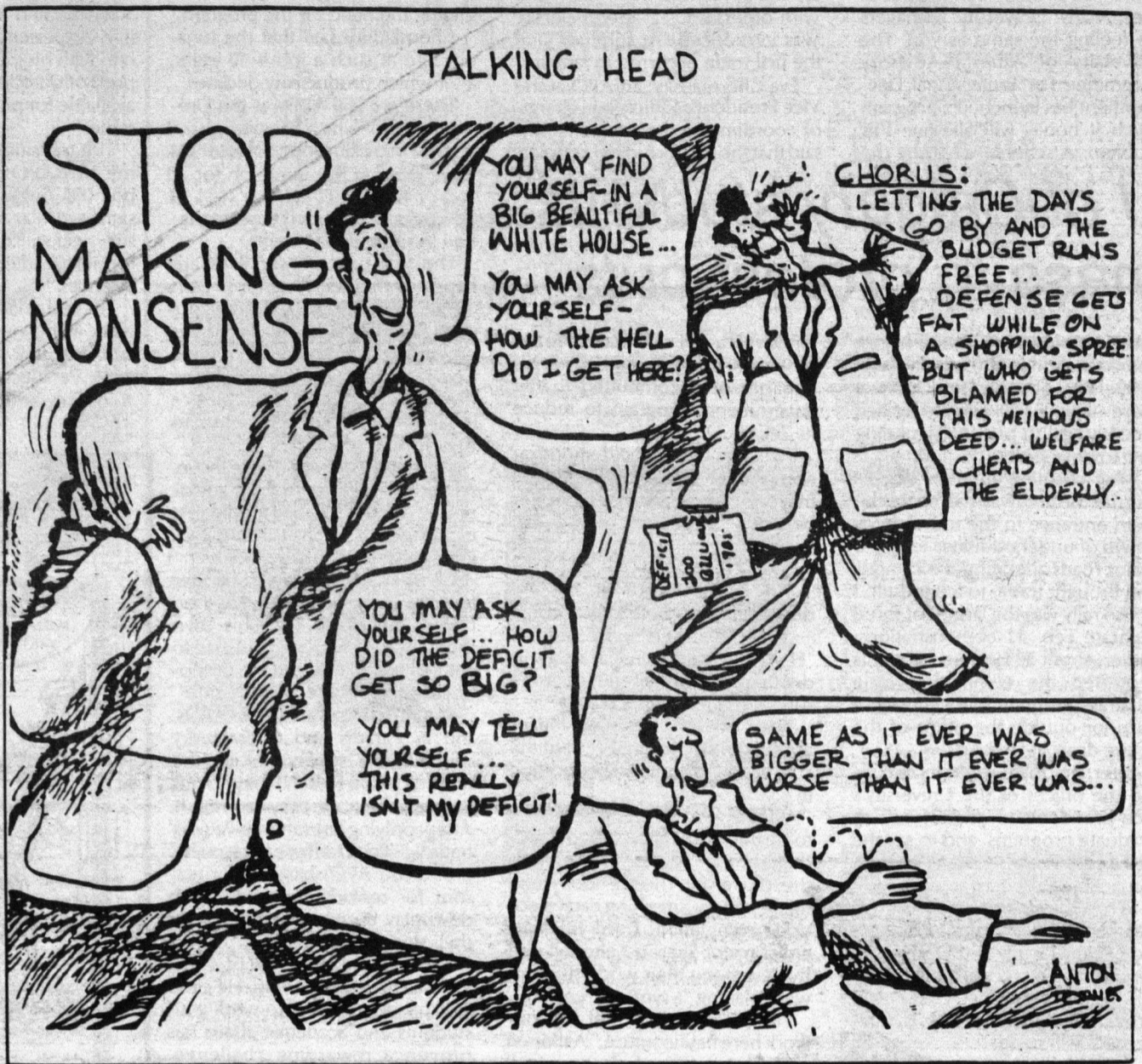
Ron Checora

The Gateway

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Letters...

Gateway gets cross-Czeched

To the Editor:

We would like to voice our concerns about the Gateway's lack of coverage, or even mention, of the Golden Bears hockey team (alias Team Canada) competing in the World University Games in Czechoslovakia. This is one of the most noteworthy and exciting sports events our university teams have participated in this year. We fail to understand the omission of detail in Tuesday's Gateway. It seems to us that the Gateway has blown one of the best opportunities to encourage spirit and support for university hockey — something much needed at this university.

For a quick update — The Bears have a record of 2-1 at the games; winning 14-1 against the South Korean team, losing 4-3 to the Soviet team, and winning 6-3 against China. On Wednesday Feb. 25, the Bears start play in the medal round facing Czechoslovakia (4-0). (No, we are not applying to be Gateway sports reporters, but my canary is more excited and better informed than the Gateway's sports staff seems to be about these games. He'll be submitting his resume for sports editor soon.)

We hope this letter doesn't cause riots and revolts against the Gateway, but we felt it was definitely necessary to voice our concerns. We sincerely hope that this sparks some enthusiasm and an immediate reaction on your part!

L. Lemke and
 Several Other Outraged
 Golden Bear Hockey Fans

Censor this! Censor that!

To the Editor:

"The Young Communist League is calling for the censorship of Canadian Television..."

"... Concordia Council passed a motion to freeze the funds of any group showing pornographic material..."

— Gateway, Feb. 24

Censor this. Censor that. Nuke Amerika! What the hell has gotten into everyone that they all of a sudden think that they need someone else to decide what they can or can't see.

The Young Communists are the guys who really make me laugh. "Oh boy, we need censorship to stop this Red-Bashing Amerika" they say. This has to be a tribute to how

deluded you have to be to support those ideologies

Let's take the hypothetical situation where things can be censored because of their ideology. (Well, perhaps not so hypothetical if we look at the U.S.S.R.!) What would get censored first here and in the U.S.? I'll give you three guesses, and the answer to all of them are Communist propaganda.

Think about it Communist Youth! The right-wing guys would have a field day with the views you hold.

The minute you decide that something should not be seen by the public, you set a dangerous precedent. It will then provide a mechanism for censorship to every fanatical crackpot who thinks he knows better. Just imagine what our world would be like if Oral Roberts dictated it, or how about Stalin, or Hitler!

The fact that any intelligent, thinking human beings can consider stifling information a positive thing is a truly sobering thought.

Dragos Ruiu

A Letter to Keri...

Today my friend Sam turns 18. Two days ago, my best friend Rob turned 18. They are the babies of the group and they will now be accepted fully by everyone I know. Actually, Sam was being accepted long ago because she did go to the bars when only a mere 17! The same can not be said for Robert Westbury. This is the man who wouldn't go see the film Cal with me at the Princess! I think his excuse at the time was the mean bouncers. This is the man who has refused to go see any of the bands we both like when it is NO MINORS night. He won't listen to me when I tell him I've gotten 16 year olds into Dinwoodie. No Rob won't have any excuse, except for apathy, of course. All the fun of being 17 was sneaking into places that swore they'd kick your head in if you weren't 18. Rob has missed out on this most valuable part of life. However, he can still sneak across the border and try it in B.C. But good luck!

Marc Simao

Letters to the Editor should not be more than 250 words in length. They must include your signature, faculty, year of program, I.D. number, and phone number. We reserve the right to edit for libel and length. Letters do not necessarily reflect the view of The Gateway.