

Forum

Bye all

As this is the last issue of *The Gateway* and our penultimate edition of the year, it's time once again for the Editor-in-Chief's year-end laudatorial. At this time I'd like to thank all those who made the year possible.

Mark Spector took over as *Gateway* Sports Editor in September of 1985 and since then has turned in probably the best sports page this paper has ever seen. Working with Mark has definitely been one of the highlights of my year and I'm going to miss playing Los Angeles Kings trivia with him and **Al Small** on layout nights. Mark is moving on to the Summer Internship Program at the *Edmonton Journal* and his employment there will serve as a tribute to what hard work and hustle can accomplish.

Mark will be joined at the *Journal* by **Suzanne Lundrigan**. Suzanne was our Entertainment Editor until the *Edmonton Journal* offered her a job as a Neighbors reporter last January. Suzanne is a lot like Mark in that she worked hard for what she got. Before her reporting job, she and present Editor-in-Chief **Rod Campbell** sold freelance news stories to the *Journal*.

Although I was supposed to be in charge as Editor-in-Chief, that was only true half the time. The night belonged to **Juanita Spears** — the Production Editor — supervised the laying out of the paper and did an admirable job of it. Juanita was tough enough to keep indigent volunteers and editors moving along so that we could finish at a decent hour and her attention to detail caught a lot of mistakes at midnight, long after myself and all the other editors no longer gave a damn.

Although starting the year with little previous journalism experience, the news team of **Greg Halinda** and **John Watson** did a good job. Their coverage of the university stripper story and the SU buying meat from Gainers stand out in my mind as their top stories of the year.

Sherri Ritchie took over the reins of the Managing Section from **Kathleen Beechinor** earlier this year and progressed quickly in a short span of time. What impressed me most about Sherri was her willingness to learn the job. She did not have an easy task filling in for Kathleen who worked hard to produce both the managing pages and feature stories before retiring in February to have a baby.

Ron Checora came in to run the Photo Department at the beginning of December '86 and began producing photos of consistently high quality. Also, Ron's easygoing manner was a balm to an Editor-in-Chief in constant need of valium.

Elaine Ostry has run the Entertainment Section for the last two months while carrying a full course load. How she does this I'll never know, but Elaine has always struck me as a very organized person.

I'd also like to thank all our volunteers who made the year a success and made the work of the editors a lot easier. They are truly the lifeblood of the paper.

Thanks to all.
Ta.

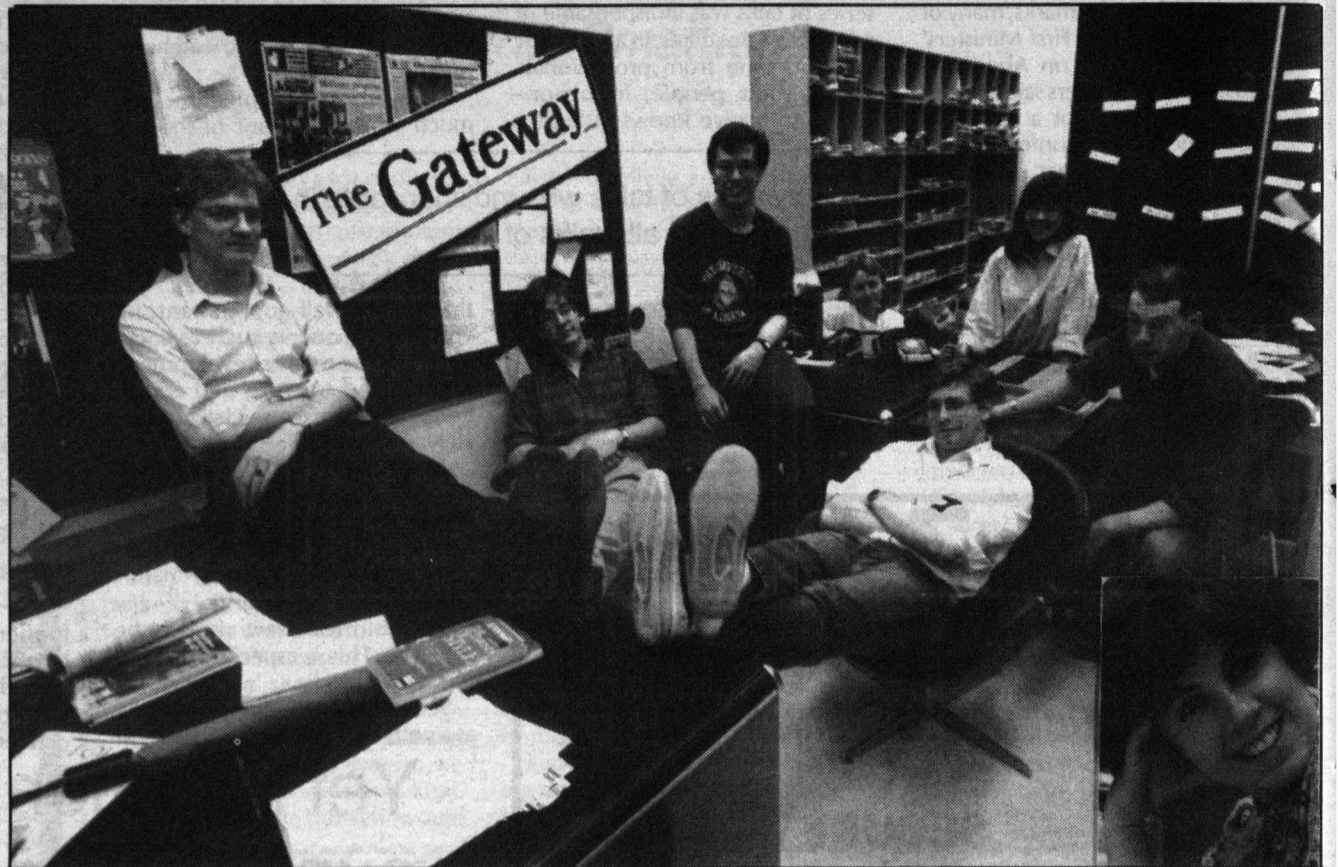
Dean Bennett

The Gateway

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In the twilight: (from left to right) Mark Spector, John Watson, Greg Halinda, Juanita Spears, Dean Bennett, Elaine Ostry, and Ron Checora. Inset: Sherri Ritchie.

Letters...

University hits students again

To the Editor:

RE: Course dropout deadline cutbacks.

I was appalled to read the article of April 2nd, where I read that the dropout deadlines for courses were to be moved back prior to the end of midterm week because of the previous abuses on the system. I cannot believe the arrogance of the University administration to say that the students drop courses because they would not get their desired grade. Whether this may mean the difference between a grade of three or four, or between a grade of eight or nine, a student should be entitled to get the best from a course that he or she pays for. To implement the proposed change would mean that the student is pressured to make a decision to continue in a course (that he or she is skeptical about) based on about five percent of the course mark.

As a result of the decision, a student may either be forced to repeat a course unnecessarily, or be ill-prepared for subsequent courses. I guess this may be adopted as another strategy for the University to hit already financially-strapped students for their money. This makes one think: How much longer can the University afford to take us students for granted?

Rhys Davies
Science III

Yes, I could pull the trigger!

To the Editor:

RE: Letter from Scott Robertson.

I believe the question was "Could you pull the trigger?" My answer is yes, definitely! When it comes to choosing between the freedom of my family and friends and the freedom of certain criminals like this couple who's idea of fun was to listen to tapes of kids they had tortured for hours before killing them, it seems to me that the choice is easy enough. Especially when we consider that such criminals are living only miles from us, jailed until they either break out or until some psychiatrists decide that they are fully rehabilitated (in jail, yes, sure! . . .)

My point of view has nothing to do with revenge, and I would like to make Scott Robertson aware of a survey done in France, where "legalized murder" is illegal: Life sentence prisoners, after 3 years or more in high security jails apparently are for the death penalty!

Of course, if I had, like Mr. Robertson, the luxury to be an outsider, knowing that no one, among the people I love could ever be either murdered or murderer, I would probably get all mushy and ask people if they could pull the trigger, and if they are any better than the person they would be executed.

And since you asked, yes, I think I am better than any murderer. At least society thinks so: they have not sentenced me for life . . .

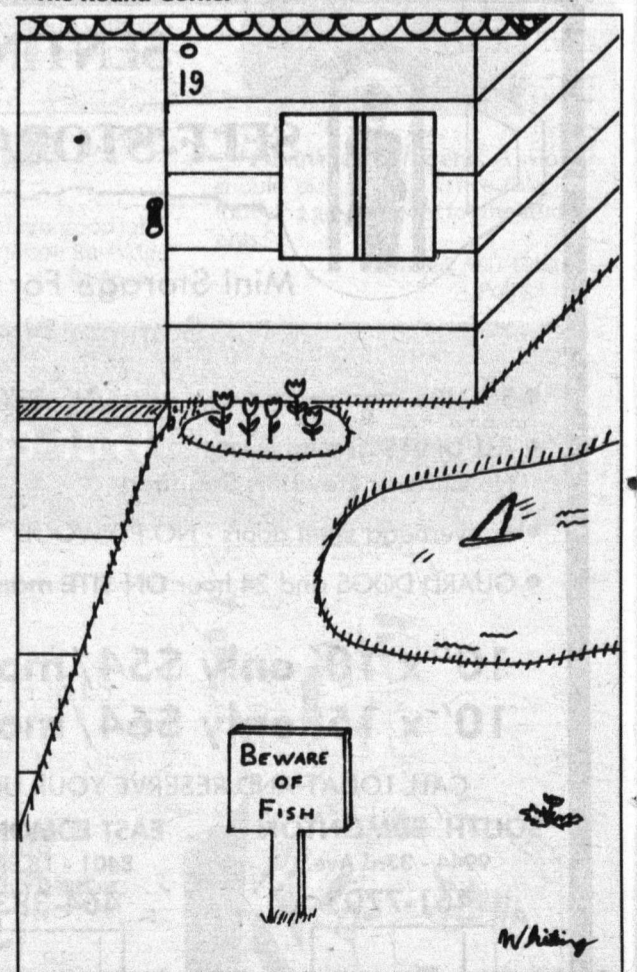
Silvie Montier
Science

A Letter to Keri...

The last column of the year. How can I sum up a year which was so up and down? It started down with a deeply personal crisis which not only drove me suicidal (I might be dead if I had gone to Sailor's school) but gave me the extremely frustrating and unnerving problem of getting good marks while I was depressed. Things eventually got better and marks eventually got worse, but the big news was the formation of my band, The Colour 9. (Hire us now, we're free!) The band is out to set the world hopping like Alien Space Rabbits (soon to be a horror movie, you'll see). My brother Paul enjoyed the press that he received, although Karen Shepard didn't seem to, and I'd like to take this time to publicly apologize to Karen, especially when she carries around that baseball bat. Biggest regret: I didn't write about my cousin Johannesburg. I'll write about him next year. Please hire our band. Thanks to everyone for the support, especially Rob, Jim, John W., Miss Teen Edmonton (this column wins beauty pageants) and Helen.

Marc Simao

The Round Corner



Letters to the Editor should not be more than 400 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. Anonymity is allowed at the discretion of the Editor. Submission deadlines for Tuesday and Thursday issues are noon the preceding day. Submit letters to room 282 SUB. Letters do not necessarily reflect the view of *The Gateway*.