

## letters

## Sky's the limit

Heaven forbid that the editorial department of *The Gateway* should be at a loss for words! We might get the idea that the newspaper is lacking when we assess "the relative merits student newspapers in Canada today".

Lately procalimed "Best in thy West" by an impartial jury of its own editors, *The Gateway* has now found an obviously inferior competitor in the East, *The Silhouette* of McMaster University. Why, with just one reprinted article "Crap-Ola" (Nov. 19), *The Gateway* has shown us the "content and obvious policies" of *The Silhouette* and has exposed to us its degenerate portrayal of its "essence of life". Hooray!

After the appearance of a few more selected articles from various Eastern student newspapers, the same impartial jury will soon proclaim **The Gateway** to be "Number One in the Nation". and then watch out world! Rising to the top of North American student journalism should be easy with a few thousand reprinted articles from U.S. student newspapers.

I can hardly wait for Gary Kirk to capture the essence of life as portrayed by Eastern bleeding-heart liberals or southern conservatives!

Next - the ultimate - the Student Newspaper Olympics in 1976. Imagine the excitement of matching wits and reprinted articles against the oppressive student newspapers of the Soviet Bloc, the left-leaning, socialist oriented (and therefore credibility-lacking) student newpapers of Western Europe, or even the oil-rich, anti-semitic student newspapers of the Arab countries!

Go, *Gateway*, go!!! J.N. McMullin Electrical Engineering

One more time

In my last encounter with your editor's impressive intellect

I was informed that *Gateway's* pages will never suffer from the dreaded diseases of interest, controversy and politically relevant debate that ravaged papers "in my day."

So I was not surprised to find my letter squeezed in between a hard hitting editorial on some jock's poor sportsmanship and the burning comments of Berry Westgateway.

If a newspaper can no longer serve as a platform for question and debate then that journal is dead.

If *Gateway* hasn't been buried by your editor's abhorrence for relevance in reporting then we are all suffering from an incredibly long wake.

M. Bakunin

P.S. Dear Mr. Bakunin: Might I suggest Midnight magazine as being the Utopian publication you're looking for.

> Bernie Fritze, Gateway Editor

Swell

On Tuesday, November 19, 1974, I decided to sit in on the intramural basketball game that preceded my own game. As it turns out, the game that I witnessed is the very same one that Greg Neiman, in his editorial, has woven into an imaginative tapestry of sublime exaggeration. I refer specifically to Mr. Neiman's character flogging of Mike McLeod.

Mike McLeod is not twice the size of anybody involved in the game as stated. Mike is 5' 10" and 190 lbs. Don't take my word for it, see D., Gord Arnett, the Golden Bear team physician. He can officially verify Mike's height and weight for you.

That Mike McLeod is aggressive, nobody can deny. It is only because of his hustle that Mike plays for the Golden Bears and is the smallest guard in the I e ag u e. Mike's keen competiveness reflects his academic record. The Mike McLeod that I know has never deliberately attempted to maim anybody.

What I saw in McLeod's game was a normal intramural contest. There was a lot of contact on both sides, and a lot of people were upset. I believe Mr. McLeod was reacting to the situation. I recall P.M. Trudeau asking a Member of Parliament to "see" him after a Commons session. Would you then, Mr. Neiman go as far as to suggest that Mr. Trudeau is a bloodthirsty ogre for posing the same question McLeod did to vou? Come now Greg, let's look at things in proper perspective.

When Mr. Neiman refers to the honour of representing the University of Alberta, I think of the athletic performers who wear the U of A crests and I know some of these civilized people are colleagues of yours. Perhaps you should write an editorial dedicated to those you know who do uphold the honor of the U of A in their own civilized fashion.

George Paleniuk

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l agree with Mr. Greg Neiman that players in intramural sports should conduct themselves in a

sportsman like manner. There is no dispute of facts as he presented them in Thursday's *Gateway* November 21, 1974, editorial.

I have always been taught that assessing a journalist's article is to see how well he has answered five basic questions; who, what, where, when, and last but just as important why.

I have always thought that **Gateway** editors would pass these qualities, and that they would in fact be journalists. However, on 18,000 newsprint copies, I would like to state that I have been proven wrong in one case: this case being Greg Neiman.

News editors who claim that a person is deranged or that a person should soak his head in cold water, shows that little or no attempt was made at further analysis.

I should not matter whether he is a *Gateway* editor or not. His writing reaches many people and he should not make personal attacks for the sake of an editorial column. Anyone, to quote Mr. Greg Neiman should conceivably be able to conduct himself with more dignity than that.

While recognizing that editorial comments are the opinions of the writer, the fact is that since Mr. Greg Neiman has the honour of representing the U of A as news editor, he should bring with it enough pride to at least attempt to complete basic requirements and obligations of journalism.

May I suggest, without further assessment, that you, Mr. Greg Neiman soak your pen and head in ice water, and hopefully the swelling will ease.

> Ken Pawluk Mining Engineering



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