

EDITORIAL

Good sports

I promised myself I wouldn't talk about George Ivanisko and this most recent of SU follies because it's too depressing when for five hours into the night a bunch of highly motivated student politicians sling mud at each other and at third parties to boot. On top of that I hear that my old school friend and engineer Bill Cottle is no longer running for student office on a platform to dismantle the office. It was at least the most innovative idea I'd heard of since I read last month's *National Review*: tear down the centralized Student's Union operation and return power to individual Faculty offices. Great stuff. But now it looks as if my old friend turned FAS apologist Mike Walker and his gang of highly motivated progressives will win the upcoming election with but a whimper of opposition. I don't know if I'm going to be able to stomach all of this so just hang on, Bill.

Besides, I've always wanted to be just a sports writer. Journalistically spurned, the genre of sportswriting is among the truly noble arts. Who could imagine having to turn out hype six or seven days a week, win or lose, just so people who want to read something pleasant and encouraging in their morning newspapers aren't stranded with just more political refuse from the minds of highly motivated 'correspondents'.

I think my friend Andrew Watts over there in the Sports department is wrong about Terry Jones. The *Edmonton Journal* columnist is no Allan Abel, thank goodness, and he writes the hype we like for breakfast like few can: a higher calling and better service provided I can't think of.

But as editor-in-chief of this particular paper (a privilege, to be sure), I suppose I ought to crank out one token. That is, that engineers and others on campus have vindicated our fair paper. Far from biased coverage of the annual spectacle - Engineering Week - the *Gateway* chose largely to ignore it, or, at least not to criticize it, just like we would have ignored it last year but for the Engineers and others going around making fools of themselves.

This year the whole bunch of them waited until Engineering Week was over to start acting up - if you're not convinced, check out the letters in the last few and upcoming issues; they are a veritable fount of student wisdom.

And, when you've finished reading those, turn to the sports pages. They provide fast, effective relief for the pain and misery of everyday life.

Peter Michalyshyn

Apartheid crime?

By the way: stalwart *Gateway* readers may realize we've printed in this issue a beer advertisement from Carling O'Keefe, the makers of Old Vienna beer, among other things.

This is significant, because in the view of the Canadian University Press (CUP) and of our proprietor, the Student's Union, Carling O'Keefe is unworthy of our patronage. That is, it is a company that has investments in South Africa. South Africa practices overt racial discrimination known as apartheid, and companies with investments in countries that practice apartheid are subject to boycott.

So why did we print the ad? The first and most obvious reason is that the staff democratically decided that we should run it. Some argued that our proprietor, the Students' Union, does not boycott Old Vienna beer itself in RATT or Dewey's (because ALCB insists all brands must be available to the consumers in a bar or you don't get a license to operate).

At a more fundamental level, others argued against the effectiveness of boycotts, and about assuming that because Carling O'Keefe has investments in an apartheid country, Carling O'Keefe naturally advocates apartheid. We agreed that Carling O'Keefe advocates profit; some people had problems with that too. Others said that profit was non-ideological and that boycotts only hurt the people in South Africa who are being hurt by apartheid in the first place.

One person, however, argued that most of the points above were just convenient arguments for inaction. He said that beliefs weren't worth a "tinker's damn" unless acted upon.

Well, we ran the ad. If you readers have any thoughts on this subject, drop by a letter or just drop by and talk to us about this. Maybe you can convince us not to run it again.

P.M.



SKEET
The Gateway

"Frankly, I have a difficult time maintaining any interest in George Ivanisko's future when my face is frozen to my clothes."

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Women demand freedom to choose

In reply to the letter appearing in the January 14, 1982 *Gateway* by Suzan Kalinowski, it is a shame that an individual who is concerned about women's roles in our society would resort to denying other women freedom of choice in their actions.

The emphasis should be on the rights of the individual in determining what is appropriate for him/herself. Should not a woman have the right to choose whether or not she wishes to participate in activities which may be labelled as sexist?

Assuming that we are intelligent persons, it should be possible to recognize our individual prejudices and not to utilize these in stereotyping the activities of others.

We live in a democracy and do not have the right to sit in judgment over the actions of others. Instead of carrying the definition of feminism to an extreme, we should adopt a philosophy of humanism; i.e., an attitude or way of life which emphasizes the worth and dignity of the individual and his or her ability to self-actualize through the use of REASON. (Webster's Collegiate Dictionary)

The concept of a week long activity as a basis for socialization to "accept a sexist view of women" is unwarranted since the influence resulting from such a short period of time is negligible. The majority of students do not even participate in Engineering Week.

Asserting that women tend to participate in sexist activities during Engineering Week is stating only one side of the

argument since approximately only 4% of the Engineering Faculty is female (Women's Centre statistics). Therefore, the numbers are not conducive to equal participation by both sexes in all activities.

The male kickline involved in the CAB rally induced a stronger response than the others.

Women should be aware of their tendency to stereotype men. To isolate activities such as the female kicklines is to ignore broader issues which may have more significant consequences for all individuals on this campus and in our society as a whole.

Kathy Kosuta H.E. 4
Kim Johnson Comm 3

Taking time to share

As a student and volunteer for disabled students on the University of Alberta campus I would like to share my motivations for becoming a volunteer assistant.

Over the past few years on this campus I have learned a great deal about my particular profession of engineering. However, I have also learned an important lesson which I would call responsibility. Life as a human being involves being responsible, not only to God, but also to myself and my fellow-man. I would consider my volunteer work as part of my responsibility to my fellow-man and in particular to disabled students.

If someone were to ask you for directions or for the time of day you would probably feel a responsibility to do so, even though it isn't absolutely necessary to comply. Most of us, I believe, would also be quite happy to help out. In a greater sense, this is exactly what volunteer work is for me. It is willingly giving what I

have and knowing it is needed and appreciated by other people.

Since becoming a volunteer worker my outlook on and awareness of disabled people has changed considerably. I have gained respect for their determination and optimistic spirit and I am beginning to see more of the inner person in the disabled.

Tim Hilbich
Eng.

LETTERS

Letters to the Editor should be a maximum of 250 words on any subject. Letters must be signed and include faculty, year and phone number. No anonymous letters will be published. All letters should be typed, although we will reluctantly accept them if they are very neatly written. We reserve the right to edit for libel and length. Letters do not necessarily reflect the views of the *Gateway*.

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Staff this issue: This has been talked about before, but since it is an important issue, it most certainly bears repeating. The *Gateway* is an equal opportunity employer. There is no such thing as sexism on our paper. The fact that the staff box is usually only filled with men's names can only mean that women really are not interested in journalism. There is nothing prohibiting women from working on our paper. Right men? Gerard Kennedy, Kent Blinston, Michael Skeet, Jim Miller, Martin Beales, Geoffrey Jackson, Alex MacDonald, Jordan Peterson, and Garnet DuGray.