

Lauditorial

I first walked into the Gateway offices in January, 1982, to see whether there would be coffee and donuts as promised in a recruitment ad. After finishing off a number of donuts, er, stories, I soon saw a chance to get involved with the paper. And I'm glad I did what I did, serving as editor, I mean; oh yes, the donuts were chocolate-glazed.

The 1983-84 Gateway staffers were by no means the most harmonious group of individuals I've ever worked with; they were, however, certainly interesting characters and definitely the most vituperative bunch you'd ever want to meet.

Student newspapers tend to be more progressive than the campuses they cover, the Gateway being no exception. The Gateway is put out completely by students, save the actual printing which we farm out to WestWeb Press; we designed, edited, PMTed (putting tiny dots on photos), and distributed 13,000 copies on campus, twice-a-week.

Our coverage of the Canadian Federation of Students saga was probably more comprehensive than most students cared for; the Entertainment section was eclectic; the Sports section was bold and aggressive; the cartoons and graphics were by far the best in Canadian University Press.

There were good follow-ups in the news section, especially with the overcrowding-quota stories, and with election coverage. Although there was a noticeable absence of a humour column, flippant cutlines and one outrageous "ad" reminded students this was indeed a paper put out by students.

The complaints via phone calls and *Letters to the Editor* went something like this: Shape up, grow up, upchuck, and up yours. The usual thing, in other words.

Unfortunately, the usual also meant an embarrassing amount of typos. That, however, was a byproduct of having editors and staffers doing everything from writing to typesetting to paste-up.

A couple of special issues broke up the routine: there was an enjoyable cartoon issue and the well-received 32-page literary issue.

We emphasized an attractive front-page and we used color photos the second term. Considering the outdated equipment we had to work with, the paper more than held its own.

The first draft of the long-awaited Gateway constitution was hammered out in March, which should bode well for next year: the Gateway enters its 75th year of publication beginning in November, 1984.

It was not a particularly good year for Doctor Deadline as the good doctor was kicked in the ass early in the year and, sadly, ignored by most. Perhaps deadlines will reappear next year, but don't hold your breath.

The final product was something U of A students found informative as we averaged slightly over 16 pages per issue. It's quite an accomplishment since only a handful of Canadian university papers are still publishing more than once-a-week.

It was the efforts of the following Gateway core people which made the paper what it was this year; since I'm graduating, I can safely make these comments about them:

Ken Lenz — With a sense of humour that was meant to keep newswriters on their toes, Ken was patient in editing new staffers' articles. Ken reminded us to look off-campus for stories of significance to youth. His writing was to-the-point. Along with Mark, he had to put up with hucksters trying to get on the newlist. Ken enjoyed design and quickly asserted his Lenzian ideals to the difficult duties involved in being a news editor.

Mark Roppel — Mark impressed readers with his *White Riot* column. He revelled in dumbfounding student politicians with his well-reasoned philosophy about the cosmos. It was impossible to win an argument against Mark but Gilbert, unsuccessfully, sure did try. Mark did his share of the writing and then some. He had a knack for coming through with front-page material and will some day end up being cool.

Greg Harris — I don't know what possessed Greg to join the paper again but I'm glad he did. He was a news editor when I first started, and readers will have noticed this year a very polished, innovative, and well-edited Entertainment section. Greg is very easy-going, and recruited a healthy number of reviewers who wrote for what is, aside from the front page and letters, the most thoroughly-read section of our paper. Greg is a sharp writer, though not very prolific this year, in his own right.

Kent Blinston — The sports coverage received compliments from even the players and coaches. Kent is a knowledgeable sports writer and out-did the *Sun* with his leads. Fans were impressed with the section's upbeat tone. It's hard to find that middle ground between being a cheerleader and an armchair critic. Kent gave praise where it was due and was careful to criticize. His writers had a field day on his pages and the photos were well-chosen.

Gilbert Bouchard — A real workhorse for writing, Gilbert assembled a superb group of

cartoonists and graphics people. CUP still has a chance at the Gateway with Gilbert taking over as editor next year. His boisterous nature will be heard throughout SUB. By making mountains out of molehills, he'll scare student politicians for some time to come. Gilbert loves to squeeze a conversation out of even the most mundane subjects, which will be an asset on a slow press day and which will earn him a slap in the face most other days.

Angela Wheelock — Angela joined the Gateway in October and her "youthfulness" was contagious. Some of us started calling her "Angie" and the monicker stuck. Angie is a fine features photographer and wrote several articles for us. She tried to look mad at me once and bought me a drink once. Along with Bill, she handled the Photodirectorate under difficult conditions, having to cope with scattered photo requests, and 15 photographers pounding on the door for assignments.

Bill Inglee — Bill has a calm demeanor that belies his varied past. Bill admits he's seen just about everything on campus through the camera lens. He leaves the Gateway having covered everything from grip-and-grins, to sports, to dance, to marches. A serious photographer, we will no doubt be seeing more of his work in other publications.

Jens Andersen — When will Jens retire the Chopping Block? Well, as long as readers continue to be provoked by Jens, his column will endure. Jens wasn't around much because of his taxi driving job. He attended the national CUP conference and is suspicious of progressives. If you called Jens a fascist, he'd probably shake your hand.

Tom Wilson — Our circulation editor, Tom also wrote for us and put up with long waits for our paper to get back from the printers. I remember one winter afternoon, 35 below, when he remarked if he moved fast enough, he wouldn't even have to wear a jacket to deliver the papers. If there was a star on the Gateway flag-football team, it was Tom.

Other editorial staff this year were: In production, **Barb Eyles** and **Anne Stephen**. Barb and Anne found time to co-ordinate the production end of the paper in between classes and other activities. They laid out ads and made important contributions at staff meetings. **Janine McDade** was the production editor up until December. Janine now lives in Brooklyn, New York, and given the fact she took five classes, she was as committed to the paper as a full-time student can get. In photo, **Martin Beales**, gave us great photos. He was with the Gateway for over two years and left in October for London, England. Martin's talent will go far to make him an energetic news photographer. He hopes to return here in the fall.

In an advertising league by themselves, **Tom Wright** and **Margriet Tilroe-West** kept the Gateway going, working against the post-recessionary climate of Alberta's retail market. Tom had a busy year serving as our business-ad manager and the SU's business manager. Margriet did the artwork for the ads and will have new typesetting equipment to oversee next year. Daytime typesetter **Barbara Catling** takes over the paste-up of ads next year.

A student newspaper is only as good as its volunteers and there were nearly 80 voting staffers this year, a record. The most prolific member of the news-pack, and he's destined for greatness as a news editor next year, was Neal Watson. Other newswriters shining through include Cheryl Parsons, Denise Workun, Ann Greven, Kent Cochrane, and Suzette Chan.

There were a host of photographers: Bill St. John, Tom Huh, Zane Harker, Tim Kubash, Bonnie Zimmerman and Dan Watson were leaders of the pack.

In Entertainment, Nate LaRoi, Patrice Struyk, Anna Borowiecki, Christine Koch, Kevin Arthur, and Christina Starr gave us their best.

In Sports, Terry Lindberg told the tale of intramurals, Bernie Poitras went to Trois Rivières to cover the hockey Bears, and the ubiquitous John Algard and his close friend, Tom Hayward, roamed the corridors of the Butterdome, et. al., in search of quotes.

The cartoonists and artists were first-rate: Sarah Hickson, Marie Clifford, Shane Berg, Jim Moore, and Ian Ferguson were the stalwarts.

There are many others: **Jordan Peterson**, Margaret Baer, Dwayne Chomyn, George Longmore, Ninette Gironella, Oscar Ammar, Rich Watts, Mike Walker, Sandy Vickerson, Martin Schug, Brenda Waddle, Georgeann McInerney, Sally-Ann Mowat, Brenda Mallaly, Bob Gardner, Gunnar Blodgett, Warren Opheim, and Barry Steeves. If I've missed some regular contributors, please accept my apologies.

Special thanks go to those in the Students' Union general office who handled the Gateway's business side, and to my roommates, who put up with my erratic schedule.

Finally, a bouquet of recognition belongs to our readers and letter writers. It's been a pleasure.

Brent Jang

The Gateway Speaker's Series: This week at 4:00 PM in Room 282 SUB, we present:

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Edmonton Journal
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