

Maggie and Pierre a record success

SUB Theatre gets its act together

by Peter Michalshyn

After losing over \$50,000 last year, SUB Theatre made record profits with its 16 day run of *Maggie and Pierre* in December.

The one-woman comedy portraying the lives of Margaret and Pierre Trudeau was held over four days until December 20, and netted over \$6000.

"It was a very big score for us," says theater manager Peter Feldman.

"One of the things the Theatre Passe Muraille (which produced the show) wanted was a younger audience," he says, explaining why SUB got the Edmonton rights over bids from the Citadel, Theatre 3, Northern Light and Workshop West.

The success of the play, though never in doubt, is a boost for SUB Theatre's credibility, says Feldman.

He's already had offers to book two John Grey plays - a rerun of *Billy Bishop Goes to War*, and Grey's newest play, *Rock and Roll*, which opens in Ottawa later this year.

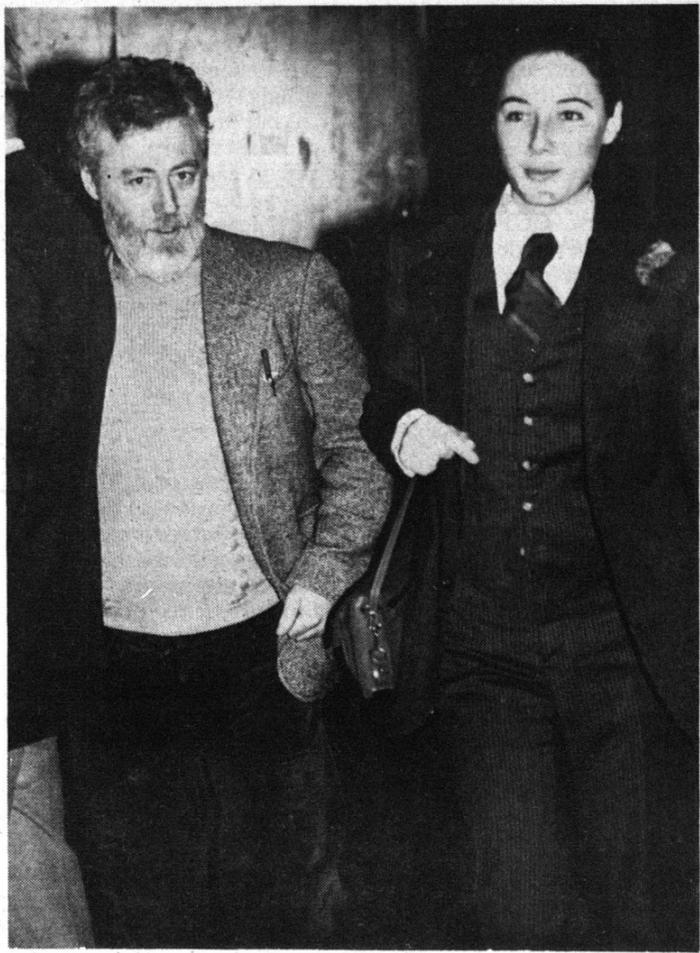
Another new selling point for the theater will be a wine bar, although patrons of *Maggie and Pierre* had to settle for coffee and fruit juice because of a liquor licence confiscation. The concession stand still managed to make over \$2,000, however.

Its potential will be realized only now that liquor operations are back in swing; the wine bar will be open for the theater's upcoming shows like *Ballet Jazz* in February, and the *Air Farce* in March.

And Feldman says there's a 50/50 chance of booking George Thorogood in March who many believe represents the last vestige of blues in existence.

As for *Maggie and Pierre*, Edmonton audiences may have an opportunity to see the show again, but with a different star.

Linda Griffiths will quit doing the show next May, after which producer Paul Thompson will search for a new schizophrenic actor; rumor has it a male may be chosen as a replacement. One in consideration is Don McQuarrie, a U of A graduate, now working in Montreal.



Director Paul Thompson and Linda Griffiths heading for the bright lights.

Photo: Ray Giguere

HUB overpass iced

By now, it should be obvious to most people at the U of A that the HUB - Fine Arts overpass has been having its problems.

After 18 months of what the Campus Development Office earlier called a 6 month project, use of the overpass - known to HUB merchants as "one big screwup" - has again been held up.

The latest problem is condensation.

Although the overpass itself is unheated (and uninsulated, for that matter), the main stairwell is equipped with gas-fired infrared heaters - to keep out the snow.

The heaters work. But they create condensation which rises to the main walkway, settles on it and freezes into sheets of ice.

The ice claimed its first victim early in December when a woman slipped and suffered a minor concussion.

The university, which took over the project from Papernik Construction last month will install fans to disperse the condensation.

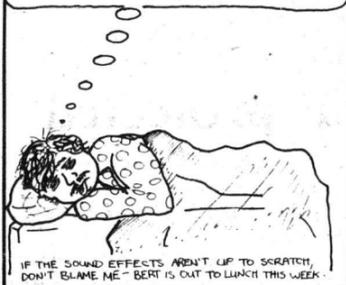
Blake Pratt of Campus Development admits, however, that if the overpass had been heated in the first place, there would be no such problems.

"We thought we could dispense with the heating," Pratt says. "But I suspect we'll put heating in sooner or later," he says, adding that the main walkway will probably also get carpeting.

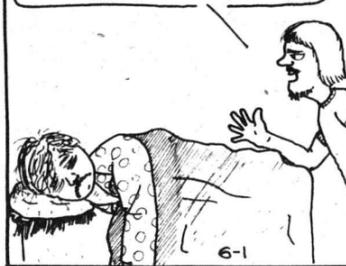
Pratt refused to speculate on when the overpass would open.

Baz by Skeet

GROOMPH! HOW IS IT POSSIBLE THAT I'M STILL HUNG OVER FROM NEW YEAR'S EVE?



HEY, BAZ - DON'T YOU THINK YOU SHOULD GET OUT OF BED? YOU GOT A LOT OF NASTINESS TO FACE TODAY...



HEY, LIGHTEN UP, MAN...



HI THERE! HOO BOY...



Ambitious CUP of good cheer

The establishment of a national member-controlled advertising cooperative for student newspapers across Canada was the main order of business for delegates at the 43rd annual conference of Canadian University Press (CUP).

The conference, held from December 26 to January 3 at a camp in the Laurentians north of Montreal, attracted about 150 student journalists from member papers across Canada.

CUP is a cooperative of over 60 papers in colleges, technical

schools and universities across the country. The national conference is the one opportunity for people from these papers to get together and make decisions on the services the cooperative will provide for the coming year.

Besides discussions of the

telex network, the news exchange service and the fieldworking services, the conference organizers held a number of sessions and workshops on topics of interest to journalists.

These included discussions of libel and slander, local advertising, editorial and news writing, and layout and production.

Seminars on issues facing students were also held, covering topics such as sexism in journalism (and society), the role of the press as agents of social change, and the effects and impact of government education policy on students.

"I felt the discussions of investigative journalism and libel and slander were most useful," said Gateway managing editor Jim McElgunn. "All aspects of the conference were useful to some people though; it depended on your interest."

The Gateway sent three delegates to the conference, including arts editor Nina Miller and editor Keith Krause.

Miller was elected at the conference as one of the Western region human rights coordinators.

The national office staff were also elected at the conference, with John Parsons, Atlantic region fieldworker, being elected as president.

The most important and hotly debated subject of the conference, however, was the decision to terminate CUP's relationship with its advertising agency and setting up its own advertising network.



"More beer," shout parched CUP delegates at the 43rd annual conference.

RATT off the wagon

by Mike Walker

RATT is back in business, and business is back at RATT.

Busiest day in a long time," according to an employee of the SUB pub.

For Fridays bar in HUB Mall, it was back to normal though. Students returned in droves to their favorite bar, reopened after a two week Christmas break and a two week liquor licence suspension last month.

Fridays enjoyed a brief period of success while RATT was closed, but Monday it was "mediocre... about normal," in the words of one employee.

RATT was shut down early in December by the university to punish its owner, the Students' Union, for violent incidents related to RATT and Dinwoodie Cabarets.

No one knows yet how much the shutdown cost the SU but president Nolan Astley says it was unjustified.

"It still don't think they had grounds to do it, especially in the light of the fact that we had an agreement from the day before (the licence suspension) ...I thought we had reached a consensus at that meeting," he says.

University representatives said then that they would suspend

the SU's SUB liquor licence if there was further violence. However, next day the licence was suspended regardless.

The suspension cost the Engineering Students' Society its annual Santa Stomp benefit cabaret, which would have been held in Dinwoodie Lounge.

Remember us?

Well, this is just to remind you that if you intend to attend our next staff party, all you budding journalists must first contribute your pound of copy to the worthy cause. That means you and yours, Friar Oginski.