



## EDITORIAL

### Orange vs. green

How many people have been picking up the *Edmonton Journal* regularly for at least three years? How many people have been doing the same with the *Edmonton Sun* for at least three years? If I guess correctly, then I would say that the majority of people answered 'yes' to the first question. I must say that I would be in that category as well. However, if I asked the same question but reduced the time span to just, say, six weeks, then I believe that the majority of people would choose the latter.

The thought of the *Sun* becoming the most popular paper in this city is enough to curl the hairs of a great many people. But it appears to me that the new publisher for the *Journal*, William Newbigging, is doing everything in his power to bring about just such a situation.

The *Edmonton Journal* has, in the last six weeks, gone as far down hill as it had come up over the last twelve years. I used to read the *Journal* exclusively. It was the most responsible paper in the city. It had an excellent world section, it covered the city beat well, it has an entertaining writers camp (although I do admit that most of them were a bore) it had a good entertainment section and it had the best sports section in the city. Admittedly, it had a lot of deadwood on the paper. That woman who wrote the handwriting column was a disgrace to the tree who died for it. Many of the other columnists were abysmal. But all in all, the paper wasn't bad.

A lot of the reason for the change in the *Journal*, was because of the new kid on the block, the *Edmonton Sun*. The *Sun* brought about competition for the once exclusive *Journal* market. It was loud, brash and cheeky. For a while the *Journal* tried to outdo the *Sun*. You could see frequent gore competitions on their respective front pages. The *Journal* too, tried to be cheeky, but it came across as middle age menopause combined with a second childhood in an older adult. Eventually, the *Journal* settled down to concentrate on being the *Journal*. It was not perfect but it was better than the *Sun*.

Enter Mr. Newbigging. This man came onto the *Journal* and began to chop out a lot of the deadwood. That was good. But I think he got a little carried away. The writers camp section was pared down to a skeleton of its former size and spread throughout the front section. One aspect of the *Journal* was its familiarity. One could turn to certain pages and know what one was going to get. But now, leafing through that broadsheet trying to find the writers you once enjoyed simply aggravates the person sitting next to you on the bus.

The entertainment section suffered also. It has been shifted around like an unwanted foster child. First, it has a section of its own, then it is buried on B6 and then it shows up on A11. Let's face it, the two most important sections in these city dailies are the entertainment and sports sections. To start messing around with one or the other is inviting trouble.

Which brings me to my next point. The *Journal's* sports section has gone from best in the city to the worst, and that includes the *Globe and Mail*.

I'm sure this is not the fault of the sports editor. I have to believe that the fault lies squarely on the shoulders of the publisher. When the sports section of a big city daily gets cut to one full page and two pages laden with ads, then I have to shudder. This is a big sports town. The people of this city love their sports franchises. The *Journal* has insured themselves of an early grave by reducing the sports section to nothing.

The *Edmonton Sun* is becoming the better newspaper of the two. It has remained cheeky but that's okay for the *Sun*. It looks like the cheekiness belongs there. It has upgraded its city section and although it still seems to pride itself on lines like *Whirling propellor blades sliced into little Tammy Cunningham's leg, ripping flesh and chopping bone leaving her a mangled corpse of her once pretty self*, it is coming close to matching the *Journal*.

The *Edmonton Sun* is becoming the only choice people of this city have.

The king is dying, long live the upstart.

Andrew Watts

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## « LETTERS TO THE EDITOR »

### Hoye's departure mourned

I have watched and read, with avid interest, of the activities of the Students' Union Executive over the past six months. The elections, re-elections, campaigns and subsequent policy directions indicate to me we have a student body in need of mature, insightful and perceptive leadership. Therefore, in reading your paper's story on the resignation of Mark Hoye as Vice-President, Academic for the Students' Union, I was sorry to learn of his leaving.

I am familiar, through your paper, with Mr. Hoye's position regarding financial support for post-secondary education from the private sector. While it may have been Mr. Hoye who initiated the discussion in Council, I must commend him for his farsighted perceptions that led him to reassess his initial views. This is a matter we may be taking too lightly while we scramble for funding dollars in a tight economic environment. (When it comes to university funding, I cannot remember when we haven't felt as if our fiscal environment was left wanting.) His

comments and remarks were fortunately made prior to his resignation and will remain recorded for future "I told-yo-u-s-o's."

The calibre of debate and degree of thoughtfulness behind positions taken on issues of student concern, has diminished greatly over the past three years. It is regrettable that Mr. Hoye, who is able to expand his vision beyond the immediates and short-terms of student politics — remembering the whole is greater than the

parts, will no longer be able to lend the strength of his voice to the current executive. His stand on how his now vacant office should be filled is correct and points further to the need for student leaders to respect, as should our leaders, the liberal democratic nature of our system's institutions. It also reinforces the need for voices on Council such as Mr. Hoye's.

Greg Schmidt  
Grad. Studies

### Loophole discovered

Perhaps the most insidious of the diseases which prey upon our rights is the unchecked and unquestioned exercise of power by bureaucrats. Incorporated into the registration process this year was a policy, apparently originating in the Comptroller's Office, under which would-be students were refused registration until they had paid their outstanding parking and library fines.

I imagine that literally

thousands of students complied with this demand. The fact of the matter is that the administration had never been given the authority to take this action by the Board of Governors, to whom they must answer, and as such the policy was totally unenforceable. Quite simply, it was instituted by the Comptroller's Office completely on their own initiative and for their own convenience.

After discussion of this matter with various university officials I was allowed to register without paying my outstanding parking ticket. However, I would suggest that a deception was practised on those many students who saw no alternative but to pay their fines in order to register, and would submit that those persons responsible for this deception should receive more than a slight admonition for their actions.

Only in this way will such abuses be prevented from reoccurring.

Blair Geiger  
Law III

### Trees to bite the dust

To that illustrious organ of student thought, sometimes referred to as the *Gateway*.

For those of you who happen to frequent the area surrounding the Arts Court, you may have noticed the striking similarity between an obnoxious chain link fence and a concentration camp...What might this represent in terms of physical reality, you may ask yourself?

Being a veteran of changing Edmonton landscapes, one begins to acquire some degree of intuition and foresight, sparked by the appearance of such fences together with mobile latrines,

pick up trucks and the odd piles of dirt. This generally leads to the destruction of whatever happens to be inside the enclosure.

In the case of the Arts Court, there just happens to be a few insignificant trees. Nothing really important except that they happen to be well over 20 feet tall, a relatively rare thing in a city such as Edmonton. Further conversation with Carleson Construction reveals the fact that, yes, some of these trees will be going down so that we might benefit in the form of a covered walkway between HUB, Tory, and the Arts Bldgs. A walkway which will be constructed as a glass dome, no less!

Can it be possible that in all the infinite wisdom of whoever dreamed this one up; that the possibility of combining the existing trees with the future glass structure didn't occur? Wait, don't tell me, let me guess...blueprints, flow chart diagrams, time, efficiency, escalating graphs, and above all, COSTS...much cheaper to merely chop and rip, right?

Far be it from me, a poor student trying to elbow my way from one overcrowded classroom to another while worrying about the rising costs of tuition, books, and life in general, to try to question the wisdom of the Institution; especially when they're doing me a favor.

H. Schuld  
Arts II

### Clarification

Dear Ms. Christiansen  
Re: Stephansson House errors, Tuesday September 27.

To acknowledge your letter:

1. My apologies for the misspelled head, which was my responsibility.  
2. Yes, Markerville is west of Red Deer. A regrettable error on my part.

3. Whatever the function of the building in the walk to Stephansson's house, it sticks out like a Rabbi at a PLO meeting.

4. Stephansson's exterior decorating was remarked upon in the information pamphlets as being "unique to Stephansson's taste."

Gunnar Blodgett

### Thanks

On behalf of Varsity Christian Fellowship we would like to extend a warm "thank you" to all the students, professors, and general public who supported our Book Exchange during the past two weeks.

All of the profits go to the International Federation of Evangelical Students and from there it goes to support Christian Clubs on Campuses in Europe and Iron Curtain countries. Through your continued help and support of our Book Exchange we are one of the largest contributors to the fund.

Thank you once again for all your support and we hope to see you during the Book Exchange in January.

Thank you,  
Lori Craigie  
Sandy Des Champs  
Cheryl Nickarak  
VCF Book Exchange Coordinators

Haker and Betelmutt burst into the Gateway offices crying that the Trolls had taken John Algaard. Within seconds Sandra Corbett, Robert Cook and Tom Wilson were out the door. Robert Woodbury, Stacey Bertles and Martin Beales organized a posse to begin the search. Terilyn Paulgaard, Heather-Ann Laird and Bruce Pollock retired to RAIT where they saw the ghost of Igor Gavrilski past, posing as the ruler of the trolls. It was soon discovered that Mark Roppel, Shelley Spenser and Margo Schmitt had disappeared just prior to the time that the trolls were first seen. Suspicion fell on them at once. Chanchal Bhattacharya created a task force to report on the incident and John Roggeveen geared up to reject its findings. Meanwhile the Trolls rode on.