

# Opinion

Dragos Ruiu

Just vote  
"No"



Nancy Reagan on the Edmonton Strathcona election:  
Just Vote NO.

Voters here can anticipate an overwhelming ballot selection. Let's see...

Before the campaigning started, all the pundits would have bet that Strathcona would be a Tory stronghold. What they didn't count on was Scott Thorkelson's less than exemplary campaign. He seemed like an innocuous enough candidate, but after he ducked out of a few forums, much like he did in his unsuccessful campaign for SU president, and missed a radio show, he quickly developed a bad reputation. Now even PC die-hards have begun to question whether putting Mr. Thorkelson in the House of Commons would be a good idea — they only hope his pathetic campaign won't rub off on all the other ridings.

Then voters have the NDP candidate, Halyna Freeland, who seems to be quite a radical — even beyond the NDP norm. Power to the oppressed sisters, nuke NATO, free trade is a tool of the capitalistic male oppressors used to subjugate the women of this beautiful country. The more she campaigns, the more people she scares away from the NDP vote.

Voters could also choose a new alternative in this election: the Reform Party. Doug Main is a talented orator, and he has the best line of the local campaign: "Nobody wants to talk about the deficit. The PC's won't talk because they've done nothing about it, the Liberals won't talk about it because they gave it to us, and the NDP won't talk because they want to make it bigger."

He is slick, but in a used car salesman sort of way. Behind the snake-oil rhetoric hide some pretty difficult to swallow hard-right policies — free trade/NATO.

Then there is the Liberal entry, Una MacLean-Evans, the no-policy candidate whose campaign seems to be ride the party line and wait for the other candidates to shoot themselves in the feet.

Some interesting alternatives are provided by the Green Party, and the Marxist-Leninists. But the less said about these two groups the better.

Increasingly, the bilingual Parti Rhinoceros is looking like the way to vote. It seems to be a better alternative than not voting and being counted as part of the apathetic masses.

Maybe what we need is a NO vote. Indeed, a new write-in candidate: Just vote NO.

## The Gateway

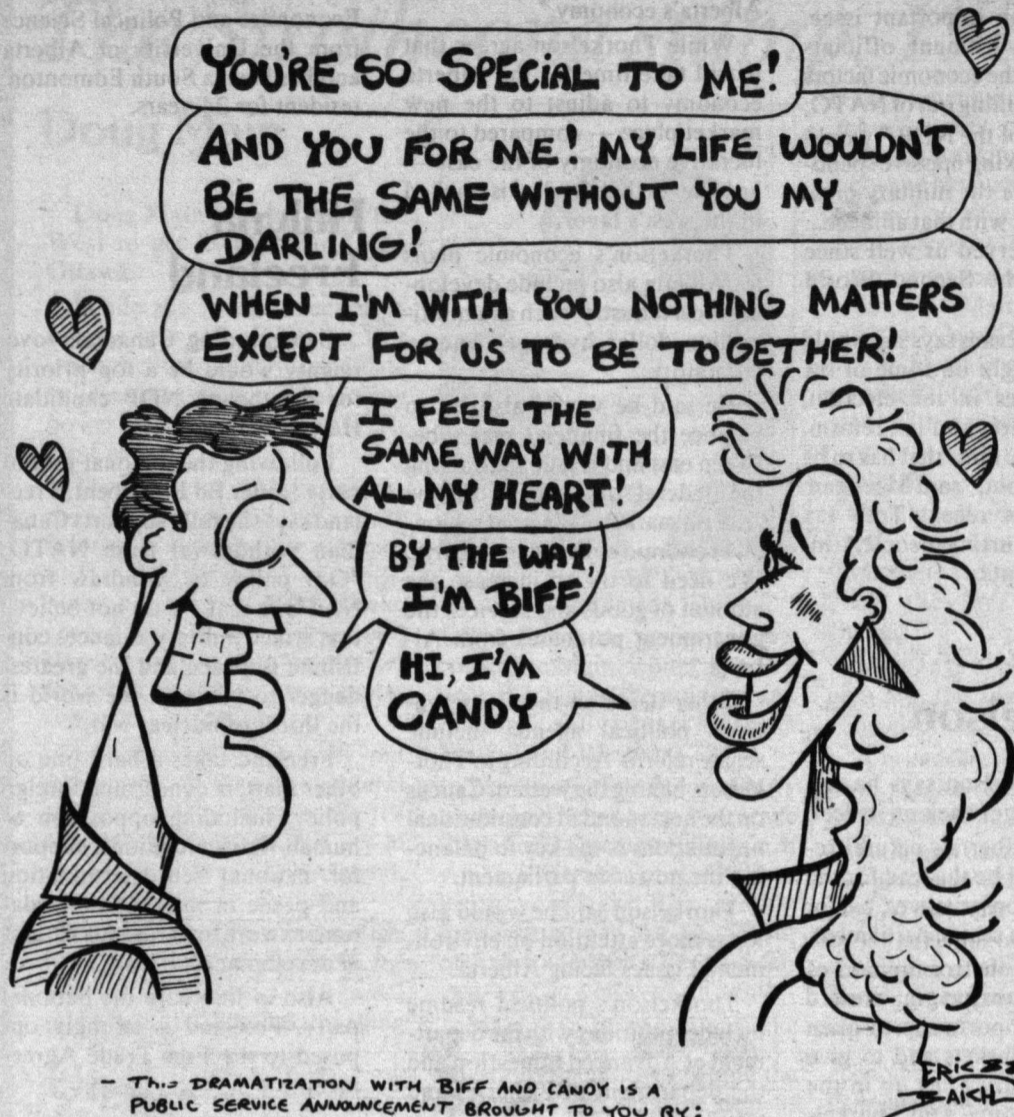
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## Letters

**The Gateway welcomes letters to the editor.**

**The name, faculty and year of study of the writer must be included for publication. The writer's phone number and University of Alberta I.D. number must also be provided, but will remain confidential.**

**Letters should be double-spaced, and typed if possible. They must not exceed 300 words.**

**The Gateway reserves the right to edit for length or clarity. Material of a racist, sexist, homophobic, or libellous nature will not be published.**

**Please submit letters to Room 282, SUB.**

### Monitor smokers

Enough time has now passed in this exciting academic year for an appraisal of the University's smoking regulation program. I would like to congratulate the U of A for making most of the campus buildings, for all intents and purposes, 95% smoke-free. It's no secret that in today's progressive society, smoking is a hindrance and general nuisance, hampering good-hearted interaction between the sexes and placing unnecessary strains on our fine, subsidized medical facilities. What's more, decent citizens are keenly aware that smokers are, without exception, sullen, vulgar conformists who oppose free trade and are lousy in bed.

Most right-thinking students are in full support of the non-smoking policy. However, I feel I represent the majority when I propose further action. What about a Smoke Monitor Force, to patrol the halls seeking out

and destroying all flaming fags? Why not institute a special University entrance exam for smokers? Heck, how about televised show trials of disobedient smokers confessing their moral degeneracy? The time is now, fellow students, for the eradication of this disruptive and dangerous element.

Mike Wall  
Arts III

### Oil not unlimited

Re: Energy expanded (Nov. 15)

Mr. Kerr's violent response to my humble viewpoint begs a reply. Many of the things he says are absolutely true: FTA allows Canada's private industry to produce whatever it likes and export it duty-free to the U.S. But Randy, if those tariffs had never been there, Alberta would never have had a petrochemical industry in the first place. Now that manufacturers may move freely between the two nations, do you suppose any further expansion of this industry will take place in this province? It makes no economic sense to produce petrochemicals here when the bulk of the market is in the U.S. From this time on, crude oil will be pipelined out of this province and the products will be made where the consumers are.

As far as gaining control, world prices will forever set the price for our oil. Governments are restricted from taking any prohibitive action against exports, such as border taxes, nor can there be a "made in Canada" price for domestic consumers. Existing contracts are one thing, Kerr, but having any say about where a nation's oil is sold is quite another. When we are looking at depletion of Alberta's conventional reserves *by the turn of the century*, I begin to feel a little nervous about prospects for energy

self-sufficiency. Or is self-sufficiency something you object to? You may change your mind when world prices hit \$50+ a barrel. Rather than being useless if it is not sold as fast as we can pull it out of the ground, oil represents a strategic resource and this nation cannot afford to give it away.

Why should my taxes be spent on numerous mega-projects if it is not to secure resources for Canadian consumers? Why should untold billions be spent on subsidizing oil that is sold to Americans? Gee Randy, I must really not understand the implications of the FTA if I can't answer these questions. I guess the Mulroney rhetoric you're regurgitating must make sense after all.

Andrew Bizon  
Engineering IV

### Read Bowker's book

Re: Foam unbecoming (Nov. 15)

Free Trade vital (Nov. 15)

Energy expanded (Nov. 15)

John, Paul, Randy? You gentlemen have obviously read the FTA. So I wonder if I could impose upon you to do some more reading. Don't worry guys! This book is only 128 pages long, and it's written so the average Canadian can understand it. The book? Marjorie Bowker's *On Guard For Thee*. It's only \$4.00, and it includes a rebuttal by John Crosbie, and Bowker's reply. The book is impartial; Bowker isn't receiving any royalties for it, and she isn't supporting any political party.

If you take the time to read it, I believe you'll find it will blow any of your arguments right out of the water.

To sum up, two comments:  
1) Most of those who object to this Agreement aren't anti-free trade, they are anti- THIS free trade. The