

SU brand sour grapes

SU Building has a building code.

That code is to prevent SU property from being used to present sexist, racist and objectionable material.

As the code is set up now the VP Internal, Peter Block, decides what is objectionable, and what is not. If you disagree with his decisions there is a system of appeals - first the SU executive and then the Students Council.

Peter Block allowed both the Skit Night and Med Show into SUB Theatre. That's his decision, that's part of his job, and that's what the building code is all about.

Did people who were upset about the two shows appeal his decision and get the Skit Night and Med Show out of SUB?

No, they waited till the day of the show to get all pissed off.

Now serious consideration is being given on a complete revamp of the building code.

Wow that's sour grapes! Because some people couldn't work within the existing system, they're out to revamp it!

Too bad, as far as I'm concerned the building code is both fair and enforceable, and Peter Block fulfilled his duties. If anybody missed the boat it's all the complainers who didn't get their asses in gear to get Block's decisions appealed.

Gilbert Bouchard

Teachers Gripes

The Alberta government is changing its policies towards our provinces' teachers.

Now our educators may be laid off according to their competence, regardless of their seniority.

Now, maybe we'll get some decent teachers and a few other dunderheads might get the fear of God and actually try to reach their pupils.

Teachers will have to join the real world and have to work at their craft to earn the privilege of a paying job.

Which is a good thing. For too long, there have been total incompetents hanging around our schools pretending to teach and getting their stupidity subsidized.

Gilbert

The powers that be

US Federal Appeals Court Judge Irving Kaufman of New York likens the press to the judiciary: "Both sustain democracy, not because they are responsible to any branch of government, but precisely because, except in the most extreme cases, they are not accountable at all. Thus they are able to check the irresponsibility of those in power."

In other words, the journalist, unlike the politician, can afford to take unpopular stands on controversial matters without fear of losing votes.

The student attending university today remembers the Watergate investigation stories and despite what *Time* magazine says about the declining "confidence of the public in the nation's press," the media is very influential.

Washington Post reporters Bob Woodward and Carl Bernstein and their executive editor Ben Bradlee ushered in that new journalistic-political era. The *Post*, along with the *New York Times*, *The Wall Street Journal*, and *Los Angeles Times* form a power base and wield a tremendous amount of editorial influence in American economics and politics.

In Canada, the *Globe and Mail* occasionally attempts to be the kingmaker and brags about having an elite audience.

One might question the role of journalists in such a corporate environment and claim the function of the press is to report the news but not to create it.

However, the print media - despite recent setbacks with individual reporters abusing their position - perform a vital and necessary job in monitoring public affairs.

Even our own *Edmonton Journal* can attest to that, having exposed Harle, Social Services, and the pollutants in the North Saskatchewan.

Thus, the argument that media is not accountable to anyone is false. Everyday, the readers act as judges and if a paper were ever to abuse its power, the readers would be the first to let the publisher know it - by buying another paper or magazine.

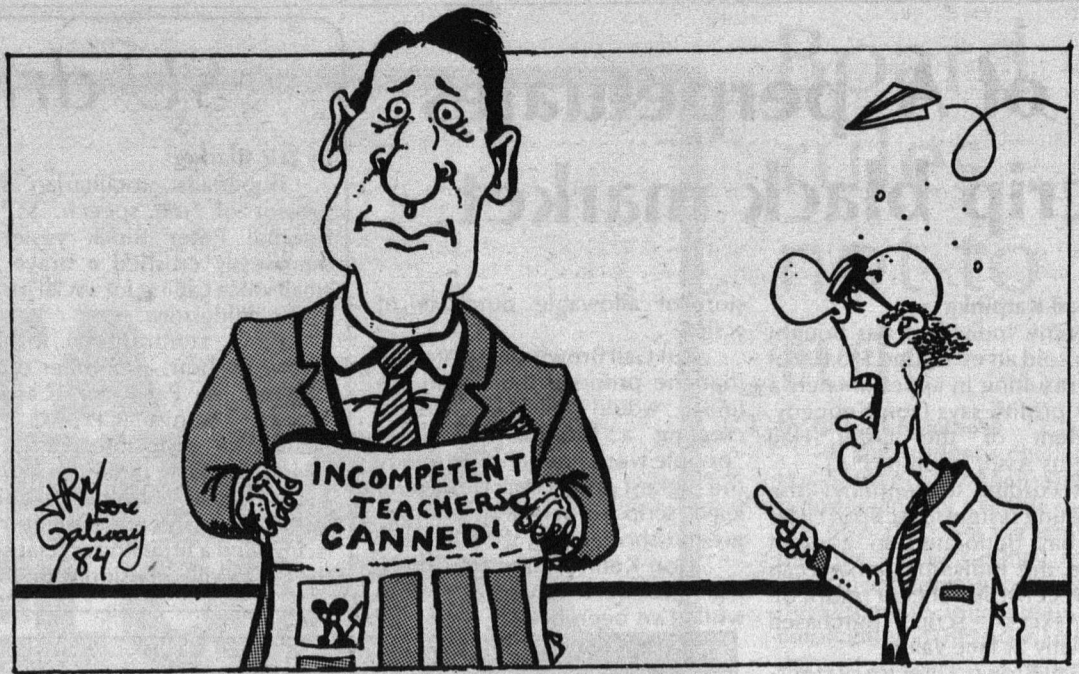
Brent Jang

Often feminists neglect the blatant examples of sexism in society, opting to reveal the hidden conspiracies in advertising and film.

The sexist ad on page 15 of today's *Gateway* offends us. The Roman Catholic Church is looking for a few good men to pursue careers in the priesthood.

It offends us if the Catholic Church excludes women and is still considered to be a respectable part of society.

Ken Lenz
Mark Roppel



First we lose our seniority, then they want to fire us for being incompetent, next thing you know they'll probably expect us to show up to our classes sober.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Computers are objective people rant and rave

I wish to comment upon the extremely poor follow-ups to Engineer's skit night in your last issue.

Arts student Siobhan Avery, Barb Eyles, and VP Internal officer Peter Block should all relearn the methods of presenting an opinion. If you wish to inform us as to the sexist nature of skit night, please also tell us why you didn't attend? Who were your sources? How can you report on something you didn't see? And as a point of personal interest, when did you last tell a Polish joke? or a "sexist" joke?

Don't comment upon what other people saw. Computers are objective. People aren't.

It is not the angered response to these people which sickens me, but the sloppiness in which they try to defend women. They have done more harm than good. The last paper in which I saw such methods of journalism was the *National Enquirer*.

I am opposed to the degradation of women. They should fight against anyone who tries to steal their dignity. But don't do it as a radical - frothing at the mouth, ranting and raving, and yelling "sexist". Don't stoop to the empty-headed, hysterical level of a twit the some have associated you with by the generalizations originating with these two ladies. Fight back with logic, not emotions or the opinions of others.

As to Peter Block's evasion of any stand or action - what can be expected with SU elections on Feb. 10? He is not a fool. There are perhaps a thousand engineers on campus, but you, Siobhan Avery, are one person. He would make a fine politician....

By the way - will you be at the Med Show Feb. 1-3, Siobhan?

Mike Aikman
Science

You sure told us!

Golly gee, it was sure nice to see such wonderful people expressing themselves in the January 17 Letters to the Editor. It is simply peachy to see warm compassion in the student body. Barb Donaldson's apologies were very sympathetic to the situation and

the job she has to perform. Thanks for all that "all for one" spirit, Barb, we need more of that. Lisa Schnell's appreciation of the fine coverage of our student newspaper, shows her to be a really fine person. Good luck in the election, Lisa!

Rainer Huebl, although with a little justification of your position at the start, you managed to beautifully admit your mistake. (I am really sorry your first name is closely identified with that newly imported barley beverage "Rainier", because you seem to be not the type who would partake of anything like that.)

The *Gateway's* correction just sent shivers up and down my spine, and when you gave Technocracy's correct address, I can honestly say it brought tears to my eyes. Mr. David Marples you were a very bad boy, but then, you saw the light and gave such a wonderful apology for using poor Mr. Evans memo paper. I hope you have learned a good lesson from this little experience!

In closing, I'd just like to say that it makes me feel warm all over when I see a student body that can admit their wrong doings. I mean it really pains me to see people present that macho, butch image of standing up for what they say. It really upsets me when people disagree because sometimes people even get offended. I think we should abolish all politics and news media because they only lead to hard feelings.

Peaches L. Cream
on behalf of
The K96 I Love Sappiness Society

Real feminists mind own business?

I am a feminist in the practical sense, not merely theoretical. I believe that real feminists have more important things to do with their time than to scream about Engineering Skit Night and the Med Show. It would be much better for these complainers to fight actively for equal rights in a positive manner than to just sit back and complain negatively about sexism and racism.

I don't approve of sexist and racist behaviour and I won't stand for it in my presence. I do know that I won't change the world, so I support Engineering Week, because of the release it provides for all those hard working engineers. I avoid Skit Night because I know I won't enjoy it. That



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As the moon rises behind Gilbertologist's mountain, we remember back to the good times, like before there was any such thing as a Gilbertologist. Good night, Shane-bob Berg, good night Brad-boy Karpinka. Good night Neal-Bob Watson (Bless their hearts). Good night Ian-Boy Ferguson and Jim-Bob Moore (you ever elusive kinda guy, you). Good night yourself, Nate-Bob Laro! Good night Uncle Zane Harker and Uncle Jordan-Boy Peterson. Everybody go to sleep, it's almost morning! Yes, Grampa Algard.