

Parlez-vous?

Last Friday the Getty government passed a motion on the use of languages other than English in the assembly.

It affirmed that English is the working language and should M.L.A.'s wish to ask questions in a language other than English, they must first seek approval from the Speaker, and submit a written translation at least two hours in advance.

I applaud the Alberta government for passing this motion that recognises the provinces multi-linguistic and multi-cultural nature. It is something of which all Albertans can be proud. However, I do have a major problem with this legislation.

I was under the impression that Canada has two official languages — English AND French — and that they have equality of status. Why is it then that any future "Leo Piquettes" must seek permission to exercise their constitutional right and use French in the legislature?

No one would deny the need for prior notification to use another language so as to accommodate those M.L.A.'s who might not otherwise understand the question. But why must they seek permission to use one of Canada's official languages? Frankly, I find this stipulation insulting.

The Conservatives had the perfect opportunity to help the advancement of French language rights in this province and chose instead to ignore it.

By failing to recognise any distinction between French and the rest of the languages used in this province, the Tories, again showed their insensitivity to the plight of Alberta's French speaking minority.

After Getty's adamant support for the "distinction" clause in the Meech Lake agreement, and his insistence that it would not hurt the cause of French speaking minorities in the rest of the country, I had expected more from his government to back up those assurances.

Silly me.

Juanita Spears

The Gateway



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"Play ball!" shouted Pat Stansfield, as the Gateway baseball game commenced. Ben McCaffery stepped up to bat and gazed confusingly at Carlo Amerongen on the pitcher's mound.

"Strike 'em out!" yelled the cheerleaders, Brian Martin, Michael Tolboom, Tom Wharton, and Glenn St. Germain as they formed a human pyramid.

"Smack!" A hit to Randal Smathers in far left field forced him to the warning track.

"They're playing for all the marbles," shrieked Ajay Bhardwaj in the pressbox, as J. Dylan popped a fly to the wall.

Manager Rob Johnstone stormed out of the dugout and kicked dirt on the first base ump Carolyn Aney's shoes as Rob Galbraith snapped pictures.

Doug Smith and Garry Makar warmed up in the bullpen and Tracy Rowan begged for their autographs. Batboy June Chius gathered up Smith Sharma's stray lumber. Colin Green hawked hotdogs up in the stands while the groundskeeper, Dave Tyler, readied the tarp.

K. Graham Bowers once again failed to reach first base as Ross Gray attempted to steal second, third, and Clive Chapman's Blue Jay cap.

"It ain't over 'til it's over," coach Al Amal reminded Jerome Rychkborst.

Just then, the fat lady sang.

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University not serious

The Gateway of November 24 featured an interesting interview with the Minister of Advanced Education. One of the topics discussed in reference to relieving the overcrowding at the University of Alberta was the transfer system with the colleges. As transfer students to the Business Faculty, we would like to offer two examples that suggest the University is not serious about grasping the opportunity the transfer system represents to reduce overcrowding.

We, and many others transferring to the Business Faculty this past fall, found that we were forced into a new program with course requirements and specifications different from the program in which we had started. Students who did not transfer were permitted to continue in the program in which both groups had started. Any and all appeals to the Faculty for correction of this matter were met with petty bureaucratic arbitrariness and aloof, self-righteousness.

Another example of the second-class status the University accords transfer students is apparent in the fact that transfer students must wait to register in their courses until several months after the other students have started to register.

Both of these cases are discouraging and undercutting the transfer system. The underfunding and overcrowding song is often wailed on this campus. However, when it comes to building and encouraging a possible solution, the University is sorely lacking. One begins to wonder if the quest here is for higher education or just higher budgets.

Andy Rynsburger
 Sherry Holt
 Terry Leischner

Upangyanima defence

Dear Cadillac O'Worms c/o The Gateway:

We would like to thank you for taking time from your busy schedule to slag us. We realize that the hectic pace of playing kitchens must take its toll on you, and taking space in your first ever article to slander and berate us is more than kind of you.

With regards to Terry Proctor's assertion that "the Upangyanims are the disease, and we [Cadillac of Worms] are the cure", we have found that the only cure for Upangyanima is a calamine lotion bath, a heavy dose of penicillin, and a frontal lobotomy (or is that a bottle in front of me?) We anxiously await the evidence for a Cadillac of

Worms' cure, however, as several of our loyal fans are suffering from classic symptoms of Upangyanima (a nasty, itchy feeling accompanied by a desire to clam dance and split bologna boogie), and are considering a lawsuit.

Furthermore, if Kelly can prove that he was really into "cheese and gonchy (sic) pulling, I await the evidence. I think you're just a cheese and gaunch pull poser, Kelly!

Anyways, guys, drop by the "Clam Barn Thank You Van" for a garlic enema sometime. We'd love to have you.

Love,
 Ted, Todd, and John
 (The Upangyanims)

P.S. Merry Christmas to our fans and friends. We Love You.

Ambassador not welcome

It has come to my attention that the U of A Philosophy Club is planning to sponsor a talk by the South African ambassador to Canada, this Friday, Dec. 4th.

This planned forum greatly distresses me. Certainly, those who have invited this man must realize that his presentation will be built around a defense of Apartheid. He will no doubt defend the white-minority government that has so brutally suppressed South Africa's black majority. He will seek support and sympathy for a government that has been renounced worldwide as barbaric and oppressive.

The fact that the ambassador will defend the government that he represents is obvious and not at all surprising. What is upsetting, however, is that our University will be giving credibility to the ambassador's arguments by allowing him to speak here. By welcoming him to this campus the University is acknowledging that the South African government is offering a defense that is worth listening to. But one must realize that there is absolutely nothing that can be said in favor of defense of racism, especially institutionalized racism. Apartheid cannot be seen merely as an alternative form of government or a differing political or social ideology...by seeing in such a way (and it seems those who have invited the ambassador do) we become more likely to accept it. Apartheid must be seen as the degenerate system that it is and it must be rejected.

So I say that the South African ambassador should not be welcomed to speak on this campus. Some might argue that he, like the rest of us, is

entitled to exercise the right of free speech. But, as we have seen in the case of Jim Keegstra, those who spread messages of hate (and Apartheid is just as hateful as Nazism) should not be allowed to express their views in a public arena.

The Canadian people and the Canadian government have denounced Apartheid. This University, being a public institution, should defer to the Canadian people and government, and disallow the visit of the South African ambassador. If he still wants to put forward his vicious ideas let him do so elsewhere. Let him stand on a street corner, shoulder to shoulder with the doom-sayers and bus stop evangelists. Let us not dignify his words by behaving as if they were anything other than crazy.

Gil McGowan
 Spokesman
 U of A New Democrats

Israeli food

Professor Barclay's letter to the Gateway of Nov. 22nd concerning the plagiarising eating habits of Israelis, with its curious comparison of Israelis with Mongols, is more amusing than perhaps intended. The fact is that 60% of Israeli Jews are refugees from Arab Countries, whose traditional cuisine is typically Middle Eastern. Hummus and tehina are as much part of the Israeli culinary heritage as gefilte fish.

We regret that this is a sign, according to Professor Barclay, of Israel's imminent absorption by the Arab world. As an anthropologist, one would have thought that he, like us, would welcome cultural diversity. Perhaps the Zionist Federation

Letters to the Editor are encouraged and always welcome.

If you have a comment which would be of interest to the students of the University, please do not hesitate to send it in. All we require is your name, address, and phone number, and student ID number if you are a student. We will not print letters missing any of these.

Letters should be no longer than three hundred words.

Mail or deliver your letters to Room 282 SUB, or drop them at any SU information booth.