

Opinion

Jeff Cowley



HUB buffed, Faculte rebuffed

The U of A has become the world's first *trickle-down University*.

Like Ronald Reagan's hands-off policy for blessing industrial barons and allowing peons to fend for themselves, the University is pandering to Ghermezian ideology.

For example, the University recently dug deep into its pockets to buff-up HUB Mall. With \$1.5 million, as well as an additional \$12 million spent on structural renovations, the administration is hoping that a glitzy new face will bring HUB into the 1980s and attract new business.

On the other hand, the University is having trouble finding funds to save a crumbling Faculte St. Jean.

Lack of money has turned the French faculty, a one-of-a-kind establishment this side of Quebec, into a decaying ghetto district where students are rattled awake by archaic heating systems, threatened by a laughable security, and endangered by faulty fire escapes.

The tab for piecing together the home for 75 residents and 540 students is targeted at \$2 million.

The decision to revamp HUB yet avoid the Faculte would suggest that the U of A's priorities are convoluted and confused, rather than wise and informed.

True, wall-to-wall mirrors in HUB will prevent a shortage of places for students to watch themselves slip on the new tiles, but it seems that ensuring the safety and the stability of an educational institution outweighs the aesthetics of a shopping mall.

Perhaps the University administration has valid reasons to support its budgetary decision to dismiss the repairs needed at the Faculte St. Jean, and perhaps it will be able to justify its policies.

Perhaps it doesn't.

The Gateway

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RALPH KLEIN AS A CONSERVATIVE??!



Letters

Bike rack lack

I would like to address the problem of bicycle parking on campus. There are numerous people who bicycle to the university every day. However, the availability of proper bicycle racks for the cyclists to use is severely limited. Consequently many cyclists have had to resort to locking their bicycles against trees or railings — illegally parking them. Campus Security, for over a year now, has been fining cyclists and confiscating bicycles. It seems ironic that the cyclists have been driven to illegally parking their bikes by the lack of bicycle racks. It seems simple enough — if there were more quality bicycle racks available for use, cyclists would certainly use them.

One feasible solution for this problem could be to install a simple towel type rack around Hub Mall. The Campus Bicycle Commuters are a group at the University who are willing to help the Housing Commission with the bicycle parking problem on campus.

The university is spending millions on a new car park under the proposed Timms Centre in 1992. It only seems justified to also spend money on quality bicycle racks, therefore promoting a healthy, inexpensive and ecologically sound mode of travel.

Bill Depner
 Campus Bicycle Commuters

Meat supplied free

I would like to personally thank some Engineers for their virtuous act of noble charity. Most engineers in pursuit of merriment this week, have neglected to think of those less fortunate than themselves; however, a few outstanding young gentlemen have risen above the crowds: they

have realized that many students, and especially those whose loans didn't come through, find themselves severely short of monies at this time. Such students, in order to have enough financial resource to buy essentials — such as textbooks and beer — have had to forego expenditures on other less important areas — such as food.

Now, meat being one of the most expensive grocery items, many of the less fortunate find that they cannot afford enough of it.

This year they need not despair. Some kind souls have been so charitable as to supply a whole carload of poultry, freezer fresh, to any in need. Thank you for your thoughtfulness. If more people were like you, the world would be a better place.

Jason Rohside
 Business II

Recycle campus litter

Educational institutions have proven to be organizations that voice or produce social change. As every person knows, there is an increasing concern about our environment. Our home, Earth, is being depleted of its natural resources and is facing destruction at an extremely alarming rate. Such continued actions will make reversing the problem impossible.

One problem is the depletion of nonrenewable and renewable (they are not able to replace themselves at the rate they are being consumed) resources. We students, and the University of Alberta, as a people and institution of some prominence, can assist in helping the environment and changing the population's attitude. The City of Edmonton has a progressive recycling program. I am hoping that the Students' Union will be willing to consider a recycling

program on campus that will involve not just University offices but also the entire campus. It need not be difficult; there are many local non-profit organizations that will assist in designing, implementing, and carrying out such a program. Our environment can be helped with such little effort; the question is will the University and its citizens help.

Krista Nonnenmacher
 Education II

Ed. note: Paper recycling bins have been placed on the ground floor of SUB.

"Cleaner" energy needed

Re: Give a hoot

It's good to see concern for our environment, especially now with the oil spill off the coast of Vancouver Island, and more locally the pulp mills here in Alberta.

The article states we should use recyclable products, and "change our wasteful ways." I think it is also important to realize that in a less apparent way, energy conservation helps to save the environment.

By taking advantage of such power sources as solar, wind, tidal, geothermal, etc. we are exercising "cleaner" energy as well as lessening our dependence on the more traditional fossil fuels. These, incidentally, are harmful to the environment in all 3 categories of retrieval, processing and usage, leading us to note the damage to the earth with the infamous "greenhouse effect."

There are many things that can be done to lessen our damaging effects to the environment. Let's keep informed, and in Brian's words "clean up our act."

Michael Weiss
 Science IV