

EDITORIAL

Way up North

As Reading Week approaches, many of us may be leaving Edmonton for the first time in weeks (if not months). I myself have not left the city since November. How many of you, for example, have been out of the city since Christmas?

I took an informal poll of people at work Monday. I was amazed at how few of them had been out of the city since Xmas. When queried as to why - most said "but where is there to go? Vegreville? Spruce Grove? Westlock?"

This led me to think about why this might be, and the possible consequences for our relationship to the rest of the province and particularly to the north part of the province.

Friday evening I will be on my way to Rainbow Lake - an oil company town at the NW edge of the province - another world, but yet not so far away.

I think we tend to forget in Edmonton that we are perched on the edge of the northern forest.

It's a forest an hour or so north of the city. Having lived three years in the north I know that the north cannot ignore Edmonton - all roads lead here and most vehicles on the Mckenzie Highway seem to be either on their way to Edmonton or returning from it. Travelling that road, it is impossible to ignore the vastness of the north.

Edmonton - after all the space and emptiness - seems overwhelming. Northerners certainly must come to terms with Edmonton. But how many of us have come to terms with the north?

I wonder if we in Edmonton - with supposedly nowhere to go - might not profit by an occasional foray into the north. After all, it represents more than half the province in area. But in our fortress city we lose sight of this and then it isn't so hard to contemplate rerouting the Slave River or to ignore problems peculiar to the north: alcoholism, unemployment, isolation... the north has made Edmonton - to a large extent - after all it is called "The Gateway to the North." But how many of us use that gate to learn and explore?

How many of you have been north of Peace River? Perhaps - we say - there are so few people there that it hardly matters. But, as Edmonton grows, the northern part of the province becomes increasingly lopsided in population concentration.

Are we to merely become insular inhabitants of an urban centre - going occasionally to the mountains, Alberta Beach, or flying to Toronto - ignorant of the hinterland? Or should we become familiar with the north as part of our social and economic world?

Angela Wheelock

Crimes of Passion

It was hard to believe, even after it happened, that a woman - feminist by conviction, perceptive, not naive - could lose her life because she had rejected a man. Yet many women and teen-aged girls are murdered in this country every year for that reason. The phenomenon is so common as to be almost invisible. Few people realize that male fears of rejection and loss of dominance are major factors in the murders of women. In one of the few studies of the phenomenon, researchers characterized more than 60 per cent of husband-wife killings as "sex-role-threat homicides."

These are stereotyped killings. The mass media either lump them together as generic "domestic" violence or romanticize them individually as tragic "crimes of passion" resulting from the killer's almost laudable, if excessive, capacity for love. The first submerges the sex-specificity of these killings; the second, their vindictiveness. For these are tactical murders, with no more relation to love than rape has to desire. The "passion" is for possession, control, winning.

And the killings achieve their ends. Whatever happens to the killer, however many or few years he spends in jail, in that very intimate moment, it was his will that prevailed, hers that was defeated.

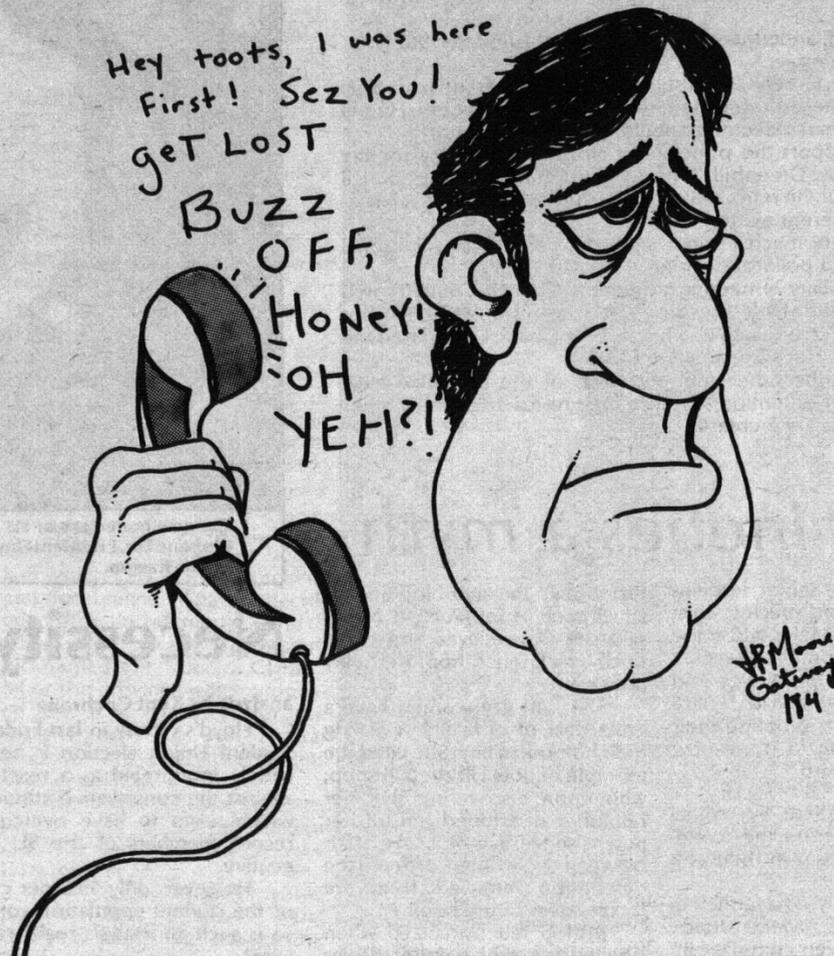
Carolyn Weaver from Mother Jones



Hello this is your AGT operator...
Hello this is your Edmonton telephone's operator...

Hey toots, I was here first! Sez You!
get LOST

Buzz OFF,
Honey!
OH YEH?!



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Beatles forever

Re: Second Wind, Feb. 14, 1984

Warren, you obviously do not follow popular music very well and can not begin to comprehend the important contribution the Beatles have made to the values of young people and the music they listen to today.

The Beatles became popular back in 1964 because they had more charisma than anybody else at the time and they were unconventional to the point that they became part of the anti-establishment. Crew cuts were always ugly but nobody question the reason why crew cuts were expected to be worn at all times. The Beatles dared to be different and by doing so allowed the youth at the time to question the reasons why all teenagers were expected to think and look like their parents and their friends. Since there was no reasonable explanation for this regimentation of the youth by the establishment, individual thinking by the youth has flourished since that time.

If it was up to the establishment to decide what was "in" and what was "out" we would still be listening to Pat Boone records and looking just like him because he fit the perfect image of being squeaky clean and wearing a crew cut. Therefore, I question your reasons for saying that popular music (pop culture for that matter) would have evolved "one way or another" without the Beatles. How many of the popular musicians of today have said that their main musical influence while they were

growing up was Pat Boone and not the Beatles? Not very many, I can guarantee that.

Therefore the Beatles were not overrated and we should congratulate them for what they have done for the society we grew up in and all the musicians that were inspired by them as well. Their records sell today for the simple fact that they sound better than most "contemporary" artists and have more content than two hit singles and eight tracks of album filler. God help the generation who grows up thinking that modern popular music was invented by Boy George or Duran Duran and not know anything about the contribution of the Beatles.

Jim Kozub
Business IV

Seal bashing for fun and profit

A short time ago, I became concerned about large men bashing the brains out of small baby seals. Many people assured me that the "hunt" was well regulated and the numbers were carefully controlled. Evidently, there is even a qualified Doctor to pronounce the seals "D.O.A." when they are dragged up onto the ship. It simply *must not* be as inhumane and cruel as it seems!

Presently, the news informs us that helicopters are chasing and gunning down wolves. This hardly seems fair. Here too, we are told that this is necessary "wildlife management" and completely humane. The government *must* know what it is doing, or this



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The Gateway is the newspaper of University of Alberta students. Contents are the responsibility of the Editor-In-Chief. All opinions are signed by the writer and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Gateway. News copy deadlines are 12 noon Mondays and Wednesdays. Newsroom: Rm 282 (ph. 432-5168). Advertising: Rm. 256D (Ph. 432-4241), Students Union Building, U of A, Edmonton, Alberta T6G 2G7. Readership is 25,000. The Gateway is a member of Canadian University Press.

On the road to Gateway heaven, Jordan Peterson sets himself squarely in the path of Shane Berg and Suzette Chan. Nate LaRoi, a writer of note and Sarah Hickson, purveyor of tunes, watch local flashers Tom Huh, Bosco Chang, and Tim Kubash develop their visions of life. Ann Grever, our morning writer, and Bonnie Zimmerman stare through cold fish-eyes at the gamboling Neal Watson and our Valentine princess Marie Clifford. Jim Moore, Paul Holloway and Kent Cockburn whisper the tales of Glibertology, that dark science practiced by our resident omnipotent seer (and Boy George fan) Algard himself.