

Opinion

Kevin Law Subway space wasted



"Isn't there anything to eat here?" I heard a young lady ask her girlfriend in SUB the other day. Thus, with the exception of L'Express, and a few smaller junk food outlets, the dismal food scene in the Students' Union Building became apparent to another pair of campus scholars.

I can sympathize. I work every day in SUB, and I would love to have another alternative for my culinary desires without having to walk a mile across campus (or even further off campus) for a decent hot meal. Any Lister or Pembina resident would agree.

It's too late now, however. The vast, expansive space on the second floor, once known as Subway, was quietly closed by University administration last spring, after most students had left campus. And now the kitchen equipment is being dismantled, soon to be auctioned.

The long term future of Subway space allocation is confused and convoluted. Yet one thing is clear. It is unlikely to be utilized in a student oriented capacity for a long time, perhaps years. And that's very sad, because the SU building is supposedly for the students. But the University administration owns the Subway space, and not only are they undecided about a long term allocation, they hint there may not be funds available to develop it anyway.

Strangely though, \$3.4 million has been bestowed for the upcoming Corbett Hall renovation, an eventual \$10 million project. Yet a mere pin-head fraction of this costly expense is not available to implement a student oriented service in Subway. Surely the \$100,000 expected from the kitchen auction would be a serviceable development fund.

As it stands now, a couple of short term uses have been allocated. The Faculty of Extension will move in sometime next year until early 1990, while Corbett Hall undergoes renovations. But this is not a student oriented service. The vast majority of full time students have nothing to do with the Faculty of Extension. Meanwhile, the University bookstore will presently use the space for the remainder of this year as storage. How ludicrous. A few square feet of vast floor space will be utilized while the rest goes unused. Why doesn't the University open up the remainder now as lounge space at minimal cost? If they promoted it, and put in a small coffee kiosk as well, they might actually make money.

At any rate, a lack of communication between the SU and Administration seems to be a large part of the problem. A less profit oriented, bureaucratic approach by Administration would mean less fighting for student goals by the SU. A common aim of student welfare should be in order regarding Subway.

So let's get this show on the road.

The Gateway

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CONTRIBUTORS

DARREN KELLY, ANDREW LUMMIS, JON LUDWIG, TOM WHARTON, JASON BODNAR, CHAD ORYDZUK, FARZAD VARAHAMYEN, DAWN LEROHL, SHELBY COOK, ROSS GRAY, DAVID DUDAR, DOUG SMITH, WINSTON PEI, ROBERTA FRANCHUK, RACHEL SANDERS, PAM HNYTKA, DALE KONDRIO, GRANT WINTON, LLOYD ROBERTSON, ALEXANDRA PARR, COLIN NORTHCOTT, CLIVE OSHRY, IAN WILLIAMS, PAUL MENZIES, KISA MORTENSON, JENNIFER LAMB, GLENN ST. GERMAIN, TERESA PIRES, RON KUIPERS, PAT HUGHES, JON ROMALO, AMY GILLARD, DAWN LEROHL, WILL GIBSON, DARREN DARREN.

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BOOT!



Boon

BRIAN M. KICKS OFF THE ELECTION IN FINE FORM...

Letters

Demonstration boorish

I was in HUB when the Campus Christian Barbarians staged their boorish demonstration against the movie *The Last Temptation of Christ*. That demonstration has me wishing I were a descendant of a Roman soldier who had the task of determining whether or not the crucified Christians were dead. He would do this by poking them with his short-sword — if they squirmed, they were still alive. If they didn't — they were dead and would soon be fertilizer for Pontius Pilate's garden.

Thoughts like this don't always run through my mind, but do tend to surface when cross/Bible wielding fanatics forcefully share their views on life, the Universe, and movies with anyone who can hear or see them. And do so in an impolite, selfish manner — such as that demonstration.

J. Price
 Science III

Spirit defended

Re: "Outerlimits out of bounds"

It is naive to claim that music "is merely a yardstick by which one can measure the state of society." Surely Mr. Pohl does not believe that the music of the 60s, 70s and 80s *only* reflects what was happening in the culture at the time. Musicians such as Bob Dylan, Sting, and Bruce Cockburn would be disappointed in such a limited view of their music. One of the main goals for "socially aware" artists is to *shape* their times. I agree that an effort such as the "Human Rights Now" tour is a reflection of growing world concern over social issues, but these artists are also trying to prompt people to do something about injustice — to change their world.

If, then, we can assume that these artists feel they can influence the political climate of a society with their music, is it not reasonable to assume that there are also artists who feel they can influence the moral climate of a society, and who are actually attempting to do so?

Popular music is a powerful force, and it is only recently that groups like Petra, Stryper, and Amy Grant have realized what could be accomplished by promoting Christian values and ideals through the music of our cul-

ture. Obviously, by promoting their beliefs, they are trying to persuade others to believe the same thing. Mr. Pohl seems to be shocked to find that Christians would reject the beliefs of others. Is it not the very nature of religious belief to treasure your own views, believing them to be *the* truth? While Christianity is a proselytizing religion, most Christians today are "tolerant" enough not to start a new round of crusades. Of course, Christians will denounce other religions, such as John Denver's EST, or Van Morrison's Celtic influences. Hopefully they will have enough respect for those beliefs and believers to object graciously.

Rock music has always been a touchy issue for the Church. Isn't it reasonable, though, for a group of people who feel that their beliefs are true and valuable to be uneasy with a medium which is often used to promote so much that is contrary to their faith? I will not defend the steps some have taken to defend Christian beliefs — only the spirit that prompted them to take the steps they felt necessary. It is likely this spirit which led to the video in question, and I share Mr. Pohl's hope that the video will prompt some people to listen more carefully to their preferred music.

Cam Balzer
 Arts III

Crucifixion exploited

I was rather confused about and disgusted with the radical demonstration — let me rephrase that — with the exploitation of the crucifixion of Christ which was presented on Thurs. Oct. 6. I was appalled at the way the group of reactionaries attempted to throw their opinions into the faces of the masses who were convening in the more popular (and populated) areas of the University. Far be it from me to condemn you who agree with the demonstration and its underlying objective. It is your right to hold your opinions and beliefs — just as it is mine.

I was overcome with emotion when I witnessed this demonstration. I do not, however, know exactly why I reacted in this manner. I was filled with anger, frustration, confusion and sadness. Perhaps I felt this way because I found the demonstration to be vulgar and callous, and to be a violation of the sanctity of Christ. I

have been educated in the Catholic tradition since day one, and never once had I pictured the crucifixion of Christ to be as violent and horrible as it was presented on Oct. 6. I'm sure that I would have reacted in the same manner even if I had not been Catholic.

Christ died for a purpose — he died for our salvation. He did not die in such a valiant, yet humiliating way so that we as Christian followers could make a mockery of his actions. In the heat of the moment on Thursday, I irrationally equated this demonstration to be on the extremely radical level of other protest groups, like the Pro-Life Group. Fortunately, groups such as the Pro-Life group have shown more class so far in stating their views. Can you imagine if they dragged a dead fetus through HUB Mall to illustrate their point?

I have calmed down a great deal since Thursday, but I am not alone in the views and concerns I have expressed in this letter. I did not write this letter with the intent of offending anyone.

I have been made aware that the demonstration was in reaction to the movie *The Last Temptation of Christ*. But I am also aware that the Catholic Church (as a whole) does not view this movie as being blasphemous, and neither do I.

Kathryn Strilchuk
 Arts IV

Young Illiterates unite!

Re: Protest hypocritical

Hypocrites of the world, take a cold shower! I know that after a long string of protests it is often easy to get excited, but calm down, take a step back, and read the letters. Kisa Mortenson was not protesting Mark Cheunming's right to protest, she was pointing out the manner in which he carried out his protest. If carefully read, Kisa's letter proves that she isn't much of a hypocrite at all.

Perhaps a new organization can be formed from all this. How about, The Young Illiterates of Alberta. The only requirement for membership would be that you misread and misinterpret one *Gateway* letter a week (p.s. we'll make Lady Godiva's horse the leader).

Norman Mendoza
 Science II