

Backtalk on scholar jocks

To The Editor:

In response to G. Winton's "No Scholar Jocks" (January 13 issue of Gateway) I agree that Edmonton does have champion-quality teams which include our own Bear and Panda teams. I also agree that American and Canadian sports are different. American sports have been corrupted and reduced to a profit-making industry. The true essence of American sport and athletes has been tainted by the large scale use of drugs, gambling, and money in general.

Thank goodness Canada has not followed this path. Here amateur teams and coaches provide us with true and exciting sports. That is sport which is done because of the love the athlete has for the game. This is the level at which sports should be played and appreciated. A "true" sports fan should realize this and take advantage of the opportunities to support "our" teams.

J. Haight
Recreation II

Pedantic pander...

To the Editor:

The "Views on the News" by K. Bowers, January 15, dealing with terrorism and the effects of media coverage of terrorist incidents was not only astonishingly poorly written, but also perfectly reflects the sophomoric, juvenile, and simplistic result of mere reiteration of conventional opinion. Mr. Bowers does not express a single original thought in his piece, nor does he attempt to synthesize the opinions he repeats from other uninspired sources. His essay is, simply, the equivalent of a transcribe Bruce Hogle editorial.

Perhaps in a future essay, Mr. Bowers will provide a definition of terrorism; his current piece implies that terrorism is simply whatever some U.S. government official says it is. Was the American attack on Libya "terrorism"? By any definition one would have to answer "yes"; yet, I somehow doubt that Mr. Bowers would even care to discuss that. Further, his assertion that there is less "terrorism" in countries such as the Soviet Union, Eastern Europe (which is not a country!), Chile, Argentina, etc. is simply stupid. Argentine officials have just sentenced former army and government leaders for kidnapping and killing hundreds of thousands of civilians in what was probably the largest and longest "terrorist" act of the last 15 years. Chilean civilians are also victims of government-sponsored "terrorism", as are Soviet Jews, Polish dissidents, Cuban homosexuals, and others. The fact that Mr. Bowers seems unaware of these facts is indicative not of media silence, but of his inadequate grasp of world affairs. If Mr. Bowers can provide a non-tautological definition of terrorism that can include his personal, State Department-approved favorite examples (Achille Lauro, etc.) and not include the Reagan attack on Tripoli (for which the ringleader remains at large and unpunished — where is Mr. Bowers' indignation?), I challenge him to publish it.

Mr. Bowers' claim that "without a doubt, a reduction in media coverage would likely result in a... reduction in the frequency and magnitude" of terrorism is unsubstantiated and therefore meaningless, platitude-mongering. Most terrorist acts, regardless of definition, occur in countries where media coverage is inadequate at best (eg. Lebanon, Israel, Egypt, USSR), and where most violence is directed at indigent civilians. Mr. Bowers' list of terrorist acts reflects his own selectivity of indignation that stems from his passive reception of Sun-style headlines. Yet, all of the acts cited by him are qualitatively and substantially different in their meanings and motives; to lump them together is to render any discussion of "terrorism" so unformed and amorphous as to make it pointless. The Kennedy assassination and the attempted murder of the Pope were both evidently the work of crazed madmen, and cannot possibly be considered in the same light as, say, the killing of Pierre Laporte or the Iranian hostage incident, both of which are also distinct from each other in tenor and substance. To consider these events together under the undefined umbrella of "terrorism" is illogical; one might as well include deaths caused by impaired drivers as terrorist acts.

I certainly agree that terrorism, whatever it is, should be discussed, but I fervently wish that the shrill shrieks of uninformed correspondents such as K. Bowers would disappear. As a footnote, Mr. Bowers should find out if the word "media" is singular or plural — he has it both ways, and even has it both ways in one sentence, in his essay.

Morton Lamble
Grad Studies

To The Editor:

In regards to the letter of last Tuesday the 13 (No Scholar Jocks).

It is sad to see that yet another person has fallen victim to Edmonton's inferiority complex, in that you and your kind will not support anyone that does not play a New York team in the regular season.

Also, it is obvious that you must have lacked the skill and motivation required to participate on any organized team, or else you would realize the importance of fan support upon the development and performance of an athlete. Remember, "The Great One" once played amateur hockey too.

In closing, it is obvious that there is more behind this critique of yours than just the fact that you are a "pro-sports or nothing" kind of guy. But, I am sure that we'll find more out about you should you choose to write another self-serving letter.

M. Brus
Science II

True equality?

To The Editor:

RE: Peter Willis and other men's rights letters.

We would like to take this opportunity to set the record straight. Men's rights are not a matter of beer drinking and rolling pins. They are a matter of child custody, unfair stereotypes and true equality. Men, as well as women, have been stereotyped in our society with equally harmful effects. Men's rights are a matter of real equality for both sexes.

We, the Undergraduate Philosophy Club, are bringing Fred Hayward to campus to speak on men's rights. We want to hear his side of the story and help represent all aspects of the equality issue. We are not a men's rights group and do not present Mr. Hayward as a representative of our views. We are philosophers and we present him as an informational source in the ongoing dispute over equality.

Carl R. Hahn
Arts IV

Humour

by Greg Whiting

With us today is Dr. Les Food who has written a book entitled *How To Lose Weight While Hanging Upside Down from Trees and Eating Bananas*. Welcome to the column, Les.

"Thank you, Greg."

How is it that you decided to write a diet book? I thought you were a zoologist.

"Well, actually, I am. I originally wrote a book on the behaviour of wild animals, but the publisher told me a diet book would sell better, so I changed it a little. There are eleven diets presented in the book and all of them are based on my observations of wildlife. Take the title diet, for example. I developed it while I was watching spider monkeys in South America."

Oh, yes. You even mentioned the fact that you never saw a fat spider monkey.

"That was actually a printer's error. The original manuscript said I never saw a fat spider monkey survive. I did see one. The branch he was hanging on broke and he fell into the river and was eaten by piranhas. But I want to make it clear that he was the only one in the group who didn't eat bananas. He couldn't climb high enough in the trees to get any."

Some people who bought your book have complained of nausea, severe headaches, and an inability to hold onto a banana after hanging upside down for a few hours.

"I didn't say that the spider monkey diet was for everybody. Why do you think I wrote ten other chapters?"

Because you observed ten other animals and you didn't think that making a diet out of the spider monkey chapter alone would help sales enough.

"Right... well, I was also afraid that some people wouldn't follow the advice in more than one or two chapters. As a matter of fact, it's possible that nobody will want to do the things I outlined in the *No Paunchy Penguin* chapter."

cont'd.

...cont'd.

You mean the business about sitting on a glacier for two months without eating and then diving into the Antarctic Ocean for another two months?

"Right."

Too bad. I'm sure that would help anybody lose weight. Let's talk about some of the other chapters in your book. I particularly enjoyed your *Light Leopards* chapter. It not only gave advice on how to lose weight, but it's easily the most economic diet I've ever seen, except total starvation. Could you explain it briefly for our viewers?

"It's really pretty simple. You can eat anything you want to, including fatty meats, that you can catch with your hands. Of course, it's very important that you don't cheat if you want this one to work. You can't go after candy bars, milkshakes, and other stuff that leopards don't have an opportunity to capture in the wild. You don't lose the weight so much from actually eating less than you do now, but rather from running after gazelles and the like. They're usually faster than you."

Well, I see by the old clock on the wall that we're running a little short of time...

"Right-o. Thanks for inviting me to talk with you. It's good to know that my book is finally getting some media exposure."

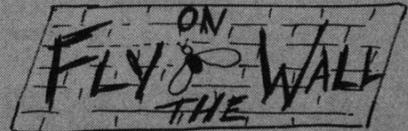
What? Wasn't *How To Lose Weight While Hanging Upside Down from Trees and Eating Bananas* on the front page of the *Enquirer* last week?

"Yes, but they're so obsessed with stories on British royalty that they got the title of my book wrong and nobody's been able to find it in the stores."

Oh, that's right. They called it the Lord Greystoke plan.

"I don't think they bothered to read anything but the cover flaps before reviewing it. The title chapter is the only one that mentions monkeys."

Well, thanks for coming in, and good luck with your book. Dr. Les Food, ladies and gentlemen. Now, stay tuned for some extremely important commercials...



J. Dylan

One of the girls here in the weight room keeps walking around shaking her arms and her hands and stretching and looking at herself in the mirror. She also keeps checking to see how much weight the other girls are lifting. There are only three other girls in here right now, but they are keeping her busy because they keep moving from one machine to another. I think they are on some kind of program.

This girl who keeps checking up on them hasn't done a thing. Now he is standing beside a boy who has just finished doing some chin-ups. I think he did about three, but the last one shouldn't count because he pushed off from the floor. He is the same boy who was doing arm curls when I first walked into the weight room. That is, I thought they were arm curls. He was holding the bar bell the way one does to do arm curls, but the way he rocked back and forth and twisted and used his legs to help him has led me to believe that he may have been doing some other type of exercise. Anyway, now he is going over to one of the stationary bikes to do some riding. I guess all of his heavy breathing and sweating has motivated the girl because she is moving again. This time, however, I think she is serious because she has just adjusted her weightlifting gloves and her head band and her wrist bands. She has more things on her than need adjusting than anyone else in here. She should help the boy on the bike because he can't figure out how to adjust the tension. She certainly has the qualifications.

The great thing about the Iran-Contra affair is that we finally have politicians running around admitting they don't know anything.

David Letterman

Emma's Bar and Grill

by Emma Sadgrove

Soups are versatile, inexpensive and sometimes a great way to use leftovers. Meats and bones, vegetables that need to be used up, and anything that you find lying around can go into the soup pot.

If you make stock with meat or bones and water, chill it to make removal of the fat easier. If you do not want to use it immediately, leave the fat layer on top, since this seals and preserves the stock.

A soup can be changed by adding new things to an already established base. Keeping this kind of continual soup pot going can be very economical — not to mention fun.

Recipes can easily be varied to suit your taste once you get the feel of soup making.

These are a few that I've selected at random, but the choices are endless.

Vegetable Soup

- 1 kg beef soup bones
- 6 cups water
- 2 beef bouillon cubes
- 1 small onion
- 1 large potato
- 4 carrots
- 1 small zucchini
- 1/2 cup pot barley
- 1 - 14 oz. can whole tomatoes
- salt and pepper to taste

Bring water and soup bones to boil and simmer for 3 hours. Remove bones, cut off any meat and save. Discard bones. Strain liquid through cheesecloth. Chill and skim the fat off the top. Reheat and dissolve

bouillon cubes. Chop onion and cube vegetables and add to soup along with barley and meat. Slice tomatoes and add tomatoes and juice. Add salt and pepper to taste. Simmer for at least 1 hour.

Potato Soup

- 1 large onion, chopped
- 2 tbsp margarine
- 5 large potatoes, cut in small pieces
- 1 cup water
- 3 cups milk
- 2 tsp salt
- pepper to taste

Fry onion in margarine until tender. Add potatoes and water. Boil gently, covered, for 15 minutes. Mash potatoes. Add milk and seasonings. Heat slowly to serving tempera-

ture while stirring. Do not boil.

Sauerkraut Soup

- 2 cups sauerkraut (preferably not canned)
- 1 tbsp bacon drippings
- 1 small onion, chopped
- 1 piece celery, finely diced
- 2 carrots, diced
- 1 medium potato, diced
- 1/2 bottle beer
- 1 cup tomato juice or V-8 juice
- 2 cups water
- salt and pepper to taste

Heat bacon drippings and fry onions and celery for five minutes. Add remaining ingredients, bring to boil and simmer for 1 hour. Let it stand for another hour, then reheat.