

Remember Being a Freshman...

by Randal Smathers

Welcome to our pages.

I was going to introduce you to *The Gateway* for 1989/90, but we have room for that over on the next page, so I'll not say anything on that subject.

Well, perhaps I'll boast a bit, and say how *The Gateway* is one of the largest—and best—campus papers in the country, before I beg for volunteers on the next page to help us keep it that way. Welcome especially to our new students. Survival tips for the University of Alberta can be found in our eight-page pullout.

I wasn't going to say hello to the returning students because, by second year, you've all got friends and classmates that you know from first year.

Then I found myself on the number forty-three bus on the way to school today, and I saw a couple of first-year students trying very hard to look like they belonged on campus. Any advice I could have given them—in print or on the bus—would have sounded condescending, so I'll talk to my fellow returnees instead.

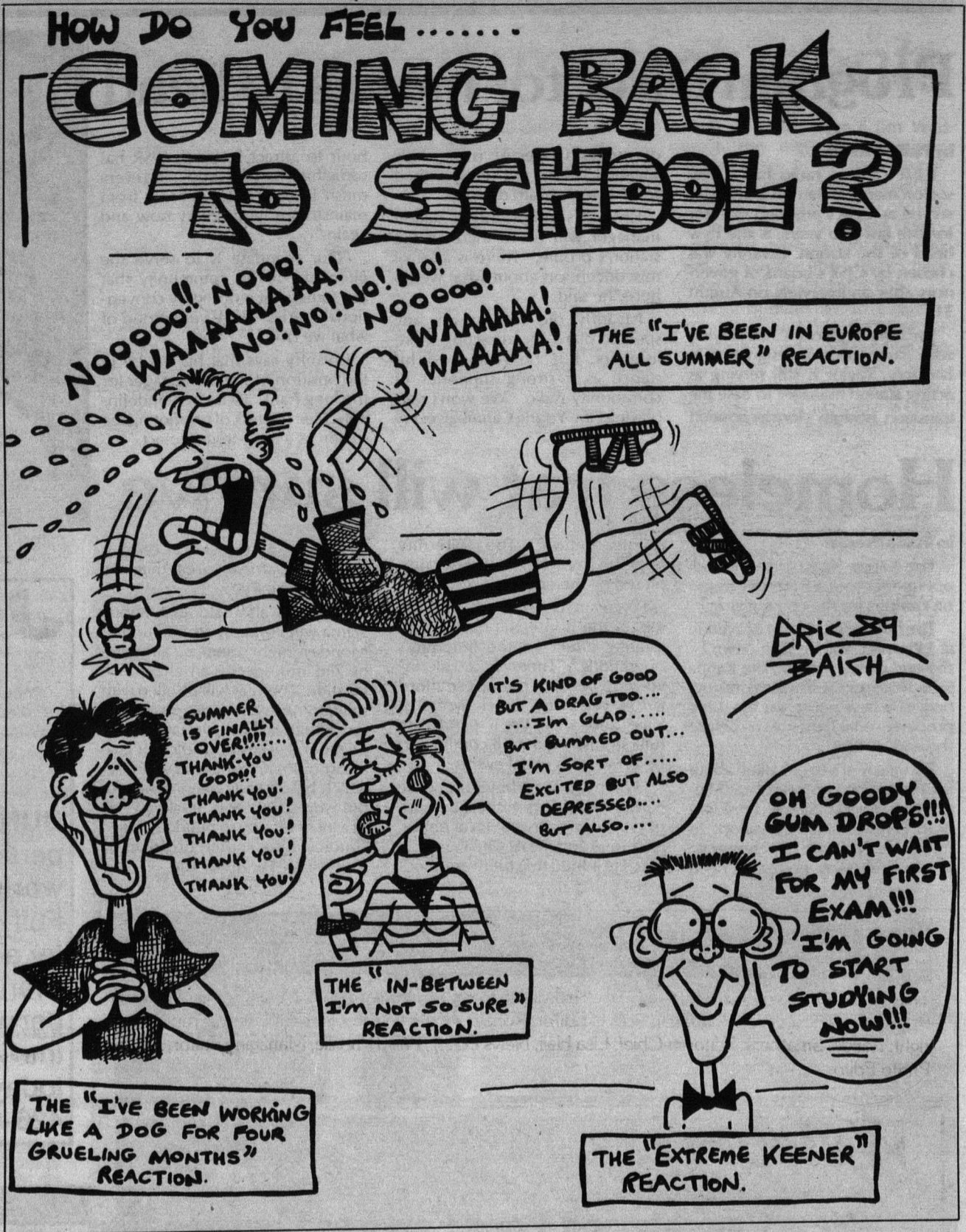
The University is trying very hard to foster campus spirit this year. It sounds kind of hokey, I know. There's an easy way to do it, though. Easier than going to a football game, or sporting some article of clothing with "U of A" on it. Cheaper too.

All you have to do is to go a little out of your way to help a first-year student feel more comfortable. Don't stare when they pull the stop signal on the bus when the next stop's the main campus terminal. Don't ignore someone looking lost in the middle of CAB between classes. When you do help out, don't say, "You're a first-year, right?" as an introduction.

Rumour has it that we were all freshmen once. Try and remember that, the next time someone suddenly stops in the middle of HUB in rush hour and looks a little lost. School spirit will just happen, when people like being at the University of Alberta, and I think everyone should like being here: universities are places of incredible opportunity.

Unfortunately, many first-year students feel alienated and dehumanized; after their first experience with the Butterdome crush, who can blame them? Many students take a year to loosen up and look around them. Many more never do, and that lessens the campus experience tremendously.

So, to all my friends from my past years here, welcome back, and I'll see you at the beergardens. To all the first-year students, welcome to the U of A, and I hope I'll see you at the beergardens too. If you're not there, you'll be sorry that you missed it by next year this time.



LETTERS

SU exec wants jello bath

To: All clubs/faculty associations/fraternities/residence associations/services/university administration:
SEPTEMBER 10 BEARS FOOTBALL GAME CHEER CHALLENGE

You think you have a chance against the mighty S.U. cheering squad. You're toast, you're dead meat, going down big-time, we'll rip you suckers to shreds.

The S.U. will have a section at the September 10 football game cheer challenge and we plan to win two kegs for our own party. You're not invited.

In the impossible, inconceivable, improbable, and illogical event that

anyone else wins, the winners will have the option of publicly humiliating the S.U. executive by throwing them into vats of green and gold jello at the September 16 home game against Saskatchewan, wearing the costume of the winners' choice (within the limited realms of decency).

To be frank, though, we aren't worried. Because we're louder than you could ever be (we have Aruna!!)

Too Bad!

David Tupper
 Cheering Captain and President

The Gateway welcomes letters to the editor.

If you have a comment which would be of interest to the students of the University, please do not hesitate to send it in. Letters may be dropped off, or mailed to our office (Room 282 SUB), or may be dropped off at the HUB or SUB info booths. The writer's name, faculty, and year of study must be included. Addresses and phone numbers are required but will not be printed.

The Gateway

Editor-in-Chief: RANDAL SMATHERS
 Managing Editor: PHILIP PREVILLE
 News Editors: LISA HALL, DAWN LEROHL
 Entertainment Editor: RONALD KUIPERS
 Sports Editor: AJAY BHARDWAJ
 Photo Editor: RON SEARS
 Production Editor: WINSTON PEI
 Circulation Manager: JIM KNUTSEN
 Advertising: TOM WRIGHT

Contributors: JAY O'NEILL, CLIVE OSHRY, DRAGOS RUIU, COLIN NORTHCOTT, PAM HNYTKA, RACHEL SANDERS, CHERYL MURPHY, GLENN DREXAGE, MIKE FY, ALAN SMALL, SHELAGH ROBINSON, GLENN ST. GERMAIN, SHANNON TAYLOR, JEFF COWLEY, KELLY ROBSON, ERIC BAICH, DOUG SMITH, OSCAR STRELKOV, ANDREW LUMMING, DARREN KELLY, DAVID DUDAR, MICHAEL TOLBOOM, STEPHEN NOTLEY, SUZANNE ZEMAN, ESTER CHUA, BRIAN JORGENSEN, DIONNA TREMBLAY.

All materials appearing in *The Gateway* are copyright and may not be used without written permission of *The Gateway*

The Gateway is the University of Alberta students' newspaper. Contents are the responsibility of the Editor-in-Chief. All opinions that are signed by the writer do not necessarily reflect the views of *The Gateway*. Copy deadlines are 11 a.m. Mondays and Wednesdays. Newsroom: 282 SUB (phone 492-5168). Sports office: 230 SUB (phone 492-5068). Photos printed in *The Gateway* may be for sale. Call the photodirectorate at 492-5168 or come by Room 235 SUB. Advertising: Room 276 SUB, phone (492-4241). Mailing address: Room 276 Students' Union Building, U of A, Edmonton, Alberta. T6C 2J7. Readership is 30,000.

