

## The Gateway

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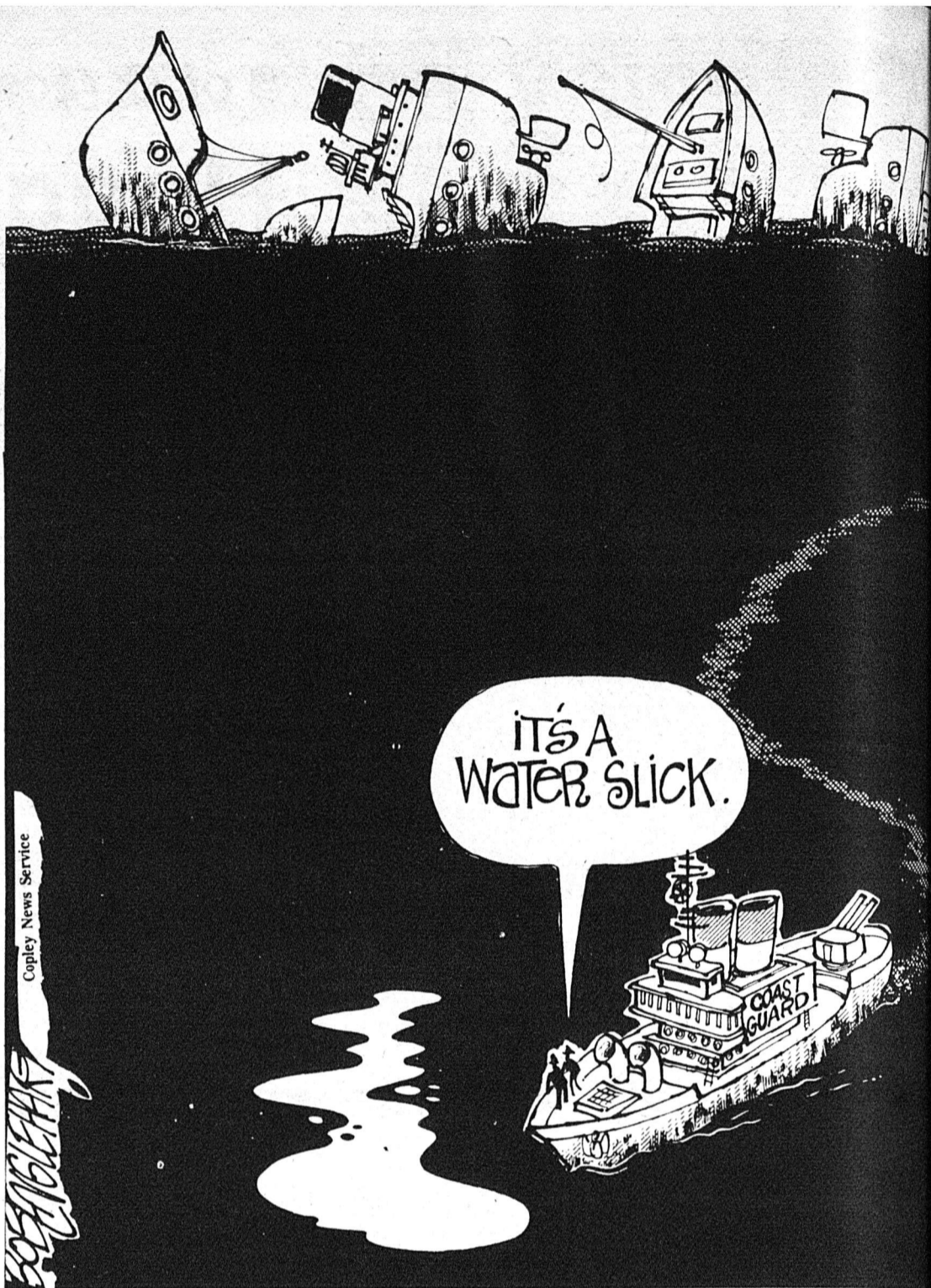
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# editorial

The 1975-76 report of the Board of Governors has now been printed and distributed. President Gunning notes in the report that 1975-76 "will be long remembered as that year in which this University was blessed with a government operating grant greater both in dollars and in percentage increase than had ever been received before." However, he adds, because of salary and fringe benefit commitments to both academic and non-academic staff on campus, the "real" increase was modest. The result, of course, was an increase in tuition fees for students while the same poor staff-student ratio remains on our campus.

Gunning proceeds to note (à la David Leadbeater) that education comes from the Latin *educere*, to lead forth, and says our major objective as a university is to lead forth. An admirable ideal — but until we begin cutting back on the fringe benefits academic and administrative staff enjoy on campus, we can never go to the provincial government and expect them to believe us when we tell them how hard-pressed we are. For example, staff currently spend \$15,000 per month in long distance phone calls. The money academic and administrative staff spend on phone calls means another 12 professors are not hired each year. Which is more important? There are many instances of mis-spent funds on this campus; we can never, in fact, lead forth from the community until we prove we have "led the way" in fighting the senseless squandering of funds that occurs in most bureaucracies.

by Kevin Gillese



# Savard protests protest

Before the saga of the "Edmonton 61" becomes lost in the mists of time, I'd like to raise a few questions.

Linda Blanchet's Oct. 20th letter to the *Gateway*, if anyone remembers it, should have alarm-

ed some of those who would otherwise tend to automatically support anything purporting to oppose racism.

She criticized the *Gateway's* editors for opposing the sit-in when they acknowledged that

FSAC had previously used legitimate means to stop the cricket match.

This apparently implies that if you first ask legally for what you want, and don't get it, you have the right to engage in illegal actions such as interfering with

the use of a playing field that belongs to other people. That is not so. Canada is a democracy, and, as such, is based on respect for the rights and property of others; even those with whom you happen to disagree. The law exists for the benefit and protection of all of us. It may be imperfect — but only under extreme circumstances does anyone have a right to disregard it.

Furthermore, she went on to say: "Future anti-apartheid protests should not be harassed by police" (Earlier, she voiced her opinion that the real criminals were the governments that let the cricket match happen); this implies that the police ought not to enforce the law impartially, but rather eschew interference with illegal actions that are somehow 'progressive' or something.

However, such disturbing statements must not obscure the fact that apartheid is indeed a vicious system designed to keep blacks available as a powerless and cheap labor source. Yet, labor books and internal passports are not found only in South Africa. South Africa is not the only country in which 1984 is banned; there are other countries whose censorship is far more stringent. And there are governments far more skilled in the arts of torture, illegal trials, and bloody repression than the South African government.

Suppose a group of people staged a sit-in at a concert of the Red Army Chorus ... or merely proclaimed a boycott of goods from Communist countries. Would we hear publicity about this group of brave protestors, so concerned about injustice and repression? Like heck you would!

Far more likely, we would hear about crazy right-wing extremists and fascists who are blind to the fact that detente has thawed the cold war and who wants to disturb world peace pushing the world ever closer to nuclear Armageddon ...

Of course, there are extremists on both sides of the political spectrum. But, by glorifying those who use illegal means to protest one kind of oppression while ridiculing a protest against another, perhaps more severe form (when did you last hear of somebody being shot trying to escape from South Africa?), as is done by all too many in the news media these days (the other point of view is there too, but we have all been exposed to quite a lot of this stuff), besides being hypocritical, threatens the fate of freedom itself.

After all, it isn't South Africa whose missiles are pointed at our cities. It isn't South Africa that is starting a civil defense program on a large scale (see *Physica Today*, April 1976). Nor does apartheid claim to be the infallible ideology that must achieve world victory (without regard for bourgeois morality).

But, if we are not to be ridiculed, we can only talk about political prisoners in capitalist countries; about South Africa; about Chile; never about Tibet, Ukraine, or the "socialist" world. Mustn't mention that Allende also jailed political opponents and interfered with the press. Mustn't mention that Stalin has about five to eight times more innocent blood on his hands than Hitler. On, no no no!

John Savard  
 Graduate Studies

## CKSR is good but encroaching

I'm no music hater by any means. I can tell the difference between B.B. King and Carole King and I can find middle "C" on the piano. However, I have some rather strong opinions on what I regard as the "forced listening" policy of the university radio station CKSR.

First, I have no objections at

### No viable purpose for Ws

At the General Faculties Council (GFC) meeting Monday Jan. 31, a question concerning students who receive "Ws" on their transcripts was raised. As it is now, if a student does not drop a course before the early deadline, usually four to six days after the beginning of the term, he receives a "W" (withdrawal) on his transcript. Should the student drop the course after the later deadline (near the middle of the term) he will receive an Ab/f (Absent from final exam/failure) on his transcript. Two student members and one faculty member inquired as to the purpose behind the "W" and the appropriateness of applying it to a student's transcript should he drop a course when he is less than two weeks into a term. President Gunning did not consider the question to be important enough to discuss during the meeting.

all to the musical format of the station. In fact, in these disco-dazed days, I find the music played by CKSR to be excellent. What I object to is the sudden expansion of CKSR's broadcasting operations from the Students' Union Building to CAB, and the Tory common room.

Before this encroachment, students had a choice whether

Mr. Cairns, the Registrar, said that he did not consider the "W" on a student's transcript to be a smear. His only justification of the early deadline was that without it the university would not have a record of courses dropped by a student before the later deadline. He also said that the first deadline could just be part of the administration's traditions and serve no viable purpose.

Many employers and most universities do consider a "withdrawal" to be a black mark on a student's record. I wonder if the intention of the university is to penalize a student should he drop a course two weeks after the beginning of term. (Especially since the second deadline is termed "Deadline For Dropping a Course Without Penalty.")

Marilyn Lee  
 GFC Arts Rep

they wanted to listen to the music in SUB or go to CAB or Tory and read while enjoying a cup of coffee. This, however, is no longer possible and frankly I find it difficult trying to do my reading for courses and appreciate Earl Scrogg's banjo playing at the same time.

So what are my alternatives? I can quit drinking coffee, go to the library, and fall asleep. Or I can drink coffee in CAB and the Tory common room and just enjoy the music. But that won't help me get through school. Or CKSR can help others like me and confine its broadcasts to SUB (fat chance).

This "forced listening" policy of CKSR is just not the answer, but the folks at CKSR obviously love the idea of forcing a larger segment of people to listen to their broadcasts. If this isn't forced listening, then how come it's so hard to switch stations when a person doesn't like the music being played in the Tory common room?

Why bother to have a forced listening audience? Why not just scrape up the funds and go city-wide. I'd be happy to tune in, especially in the mornings. You guys have got "Disco Chuck" and his Homemakers Hitline beat all to hell.

Jim Klingle  
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