

Editors wanted

Once again, *the Gateway* is accepting applications for the various editorial positions for the upcoming year, as follows:

News
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If you are interested in any of the above positions, or would simply like to know more information about them, please submit a brief letter of intent to Andrew Watts, Rm. 282, SUB.

Deadline: March 17, 1982

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QUEST FOR FUNDS

It really began in '77

by Mike Ekelund

A march on the legislature as the best way of protesting upcoming tuition increases was first suggested by John Ferris and SU vice-president Dave Rand in the summer of 1977. There had just been a large increase in tuition fees and more were expected. However, there wasn't a lot of thought given to protest over the first half of the school term. In fact the issue given the most space in the *Gateway* was Quebec Separatism.

In January, however, rumors started (and were dutifully printed in the *Gateway* that there was another 10 to 25 per cent increase coming in the budget. To the average student like myself this potential hit in the pocketbook was a matter of some concern, although maybe not great concern.

However, the *Gateway* did its best to keep the issue current, with front page stories of student protest at G.F.C. and Board of Governors meetings, interviews with the Minister of Advanced Education and Manpower Bert Hohol, and articles on tuition increases in other Provinces (B.C., Sask., Man., and Ontario) and cities (Calgary and Lethbridge). As well COTI (who begat COTIAC, who begat CIF, who begat FACT, who begat QUAC, who begat our present ACT) held meetings of few but dedicated anti-increase and cutback people. The real backbone of the whole deal was Dave Rand and members of the campus Young Socialists - Nick Cooke, Kathy Rojycoski, and Katy Le Rougetel.

There was a hiatus while the SU elections were run, protested, and one position re-run (de javu?) but for the month before the protest the *Gateway* printed letters and articles from the Deans of various faculties explaining exactly what positions would be

cut under the expected budget, and what services the students in their faculties would lose. In General Faculties Council Nick Cooke and Chanchal Bhattacharya argued for classes to be cancelled, while Professors Howarth and Crawford argued that both faculty and students might object, and there was insufficient notice for a successful protest. Dean Baldwin also questioned whether the march would be politically effective. The motion to cancel classes was carried. Randy Read, science student member, asked outgoing President Gunning if he would join the march. There were cheers from the students when he said yes.

Probably one of the catalysts in getting students out to protest was the Board of Governors motion forbidding Dr. Gunning from joining the march. To a lot of students, this looked a lot like political pressure by the Government appointed Board. Dr. Gunning gained a lot of respect when he didn't march, but made a speech at the beginning of the march, drove over to the Legislature and spoke there as well.

And surprisingly there were no complaints from motorists who were stopped on the High Level Bridge for about half an hour while we were shepherded across by student "parade marshalls" yelling unintelligible things through their bullhorns. Of course, fear may have something to do with it, considering the mass of people there.

Strangely enough, we were fairly quiet while the Premier spoke, expect for a few yahoos in the back yelling they would vote Socred (no one listened to me though), and then a spontaneous chant of "Bull-shit" broke out, following the Premier's promise

to make an investigation into student loans.

Dr. Hohol and the heir apparent to the throne, Don Getty were both on the steps but didn't speak.

We were also treated to talks from the Opposition House Leader Walter Buck, the NDP Leader Grant Notley, and someone from the AFL (possibly Harry Kostiuik, or more likely Reg Baskin), all of whom declared their support for more funding of Universities and Colleges.

Once the real politicians had retreated back into the Legislature the steps were left open to the young socialists and the student started to drift back towards the University.

Just as the area in front of the Legislature emptied out the bus carrying protesters from the University of Lethbridge arrived to the applause of the remaining students.

Unfortunately, the Lethbridge students were extremely angry about arriving as the demonstration was ending. Their chief spokesman grabbed a bullhorn away from Dave Rand and shouted to students to storm the legislature. The police were not amused. After a brief scuffle, the bullhorn was grabbed away by U of A student march organizers and the student marshalls restrained the crowd.

As the bulk of the students drifted back to campus the four hour traffic jam on 109th St. finally began to break up.

Eventually we all went home.

Mike Ekelund has been a student at the U of A for some years, first as an Engineer, then as v.p. academic of the Students' Union, now as a law rep on Students' Council.

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THIS WEEK'S ENTERTAINMENT

PATCH

RENFORD INN

• No cover Mon-Tues
• Wed. is Ladies night & U of A Pub Night
(Admission free to U of A students with I.D.)

10620 82 (Whyte) Ave.