

Editorial



Letters to the Editor should not be more than 250 words in length. They must include your signature, faculty, year of program, I.D. number, and phone number. Requests for anonymity are at the discretion of the Managing Editor, but the above information is required regardless. We reserve the right to edit for libel and length. Letters do not necessarily reflect the views of the Gateway.

More on SU and international issues...

I would very much like to see our Students' Union take a stand on international issues. Unfortunately, the SU has no reason and no mandate to opine in the international forum.

And why not? Many members of council have been asking themselves just that. They are happy to point out that they were elected to represent the interests of the students.

Michael Hunter, SU Vice President External, is fond of that reasoning. He is the man behind two recent council motions. One condemning human rights violations in South Africa. The second deploring the same in a list (compiled by Amnesty International) of countries.

Both motions were defeated.

Hunter will tell you that Students' Council was elected to represent the students of this campus. He certainly is right, fully 18 per cent of students voted in the elections that elected Hunter and his policies.

Unfortunately, nowhere in the Positive Perspectives (the slate Hunter and the rest of the SU executive ran on) platform was a promise to remedy the human rights violation in countries across the world.

They promised you beer.

They promised you cheap beer.

They promised you better places to drink beer.

Of course, a political science student such as Hunter may find international politics more exciting than beer, but his election platform would not have led you to that conclusion.

So maybe next year, at election time, we'll see some candidates who think they can do something more for students than pour beer.

If councillors want to deal in the international forum, I say great. But that is certainly not what they were elected for this year.

John Watson

Letters



Hey! Rud-e-ee!



To the Editor,

Re: Professor Rudy Wiebe's letter, September 25, 1986:

It is evident from Professor Wiebe's letter that he is concerned that he did not teach me enough, or teach me well enough. Allow me to reassure him.

Charles God Damn Roberts, poet and animal-story writer, was a prominent member of Canadian letters between 1886 and 1934. Although his most successful work was the animal story, his poetry, the critics tell us, contributed considerably to the future of Canadian verse.

I know that in my M.A. oral exam, Professor Wiebe wanted me to confess my undying gratitude to Charles God Damn for writing the first animal stories in Canada, but I hasten to reiterate that my oracular pigs (see *Judith*) owe little or nothing to the naturalistic predestination of Charles God Damn's mice and hawks. The difference between my pigs and his catechismic creatures is the difference between dead realism (the inexorable order of nature) and magic (the possibilities within nature that man is too limited to apprehend). And the difference has nothing to do with anthropomorphism either.

If he is so concerned about my lack of knowledge, I do wish that Professor Wiebe would try to recall my M.A. It would make for an interesting story, and perhaps make more famous his most famous student.

Sincerely,
Aritha van Herk
Associate Professor
English Department
University of Calgary

Bright future

To the Editor,

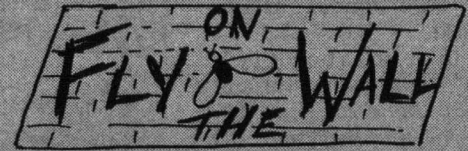
In response to P. Visser's expounding article on extinction in September 23rd's Gateway, I would like to make a few comments.

P. Visser suggested an acceleration of evolution on man's part by eliminating inferior species that are destined to become extinct anyway. This insightful theory prompted further honourable ideas of my own which must be shared.

Has anyone considered those members of our own species who could be labelled as "failures", deserving of fast relief from their own inferiority and uselessness? I am referring, of course, to the pathetically emaciated, undernourished herds of Ethiopians and other such peoples inhabiting underdeveloped countries. In my opinion, they deserve no sympathy. Is it our fault that these people would prefer to starve, rather than go against their religion by eating their own dead? Instead, they rear their scrawny faces on magazine covers, playing upon our sympathy, and making us feel obligated to ship vast quantities of rice and evaporated milk to extend their futile lives a few years longer. We could be using this valuable space to build more and more nuclear power plants!

So I beseech each and every one of you to refrain from contributing your hard-earned dollars towards a cause such as this. The amount of money spent on trying to keep these people alive only lends to our problems of over-population. I say let the undernourished perish as they are meant to so we can put our money towards lowering national debt, creating new jobs, or buying those little extras we've always wanted. We deserve it. After all, we have emerged as the superior race in the human species and, in P. Visser's words, we "have the right to take the world as our prize, and to evolve to seek greater rewards."

Ah, yes. Doesn't the future look bright for humanity??
The White Flash



J. Dylan

Across from me is sitting a young man, guy, whatever, who has a red thing tied around his neck. My wife tells me it must have been a bandana, but I prefer to call it a thing. Anyway, he is doing, or has done, what a lot of students at university do at night. A lot of students sit down at a desk, open their book bag, pull out their book, pull out a highlighter pen, open their book, uncup their highlighter, lean back in their chair, put their feet up on the desk, close their eyes, and go to sleep. This is what the guy across from me has done.

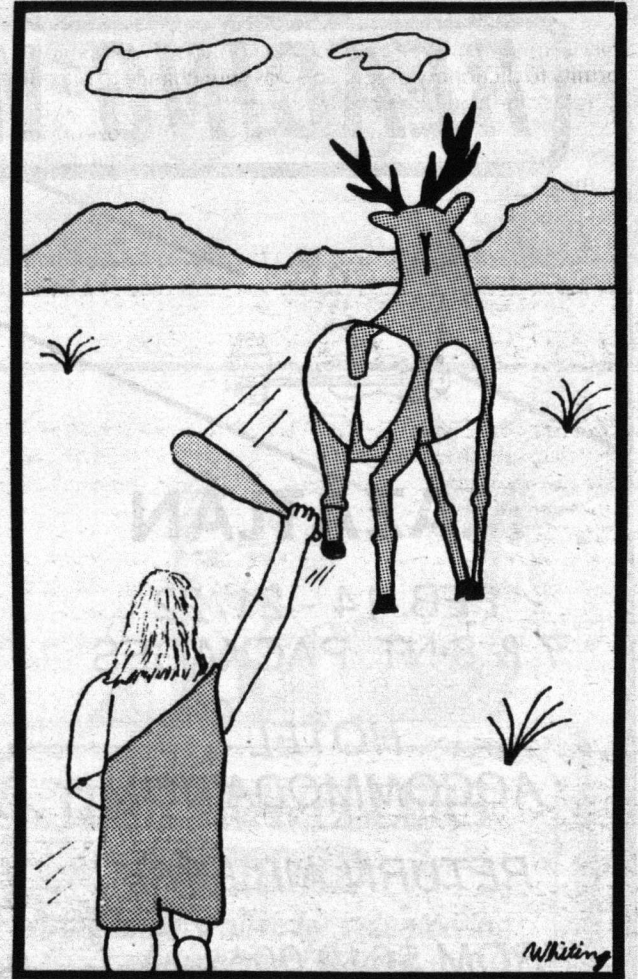
He appears to be in quite a deep sleep. His head is no longer jerking up or bobbing to one side. Now it is just resting comfortably on his chest. But I can still see the red thing tied around his neck.

It looks a little silly, I guess. I have seen such things tied around a person's head, or attached to a book bag, or even stuffed in a pocket to be used as a handkerchief, but never have I seen one tied around a person's neck. I can only hope that he doesn't tie it there for easy access when he has to blow his nose.

It does add a little flair to his outfit, however. Flair in the form of a little red thing around his neck that would otherwise not be there had he not put it there.

The Round Corner

By Greg Whiting



Prehistoric fast food.

Tool of torture

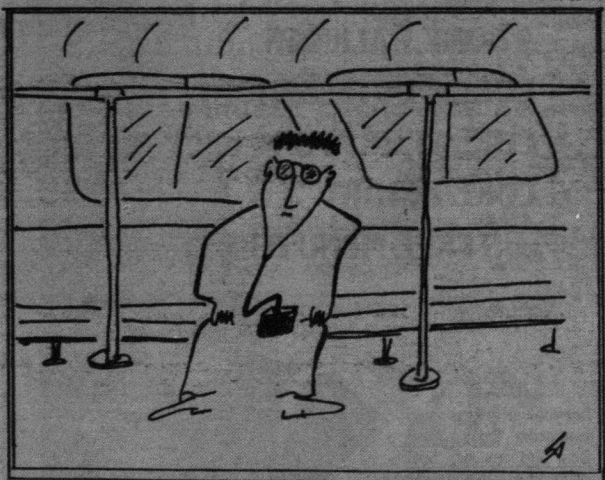
To the Editor:

It has come to my attention that the old-fashioned Walkman, with the martian-like loop of metal attached to a set of miniature headphones, has been superceded by a new generation of personal sound machines. These new machines have two small earphones that are placed directly in the ears.

I saw a fellow wearing one of these yesterday on the bus. From my viewpoint, it appeared that he had his ears lashed together with string and tethered to his belt.

It had to be said.

Wm. Shiell
Arts II



Faculte's concerns

To the Editor:

On September 25, 1986, five different members of various administrative departments of the university visited a group of students of the Faculte St. Jean Residence to discuss problems or concerns these students have about the residence.

The panel was posed many various and often difficult questions by the residents and a very positive atmosphere was present at the meeting. It gave these students a chance to "have it out" with the administration and at the same time allowed the administration to clarify its position and to understand better the views of the residents.

It is my opinion that this act was one that promoted a positive attitude among the students and a very forward move by a seemingly static institution.

Finally, I think it is quite in order to thank the members of this panel, namely Dean Bour, David Bruch, Penny Liebert, Stan Perka, Linda Logan, and not to forget Aurele Malo for translating for the Francophones present.

Tom E. Kalis
Education I
Faculte St. Jean

Your name could appear here in the next issue of *The Gateway*.
Come and see us. Rm 282 SUB.

Gateway

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Mike Spindloe dealt the cards to Kourch, Tio and Karen. Susan McLaughlin picked up hers and chuckled with glee. Lucien Cloutier made an opening bid of one no trump. Scott Gordon snorted at Alan Small. "H", he cried, "Three clubs." Marie Clifford turned green and winked at Shauna. "Look, Emma bid four clubs or double him." Roberta looked up bewildered while Dragos called for a misdeal. Reta and Joe got right into it and cried "They'll make the rubber." Greg and J. Dylan smiled smugly and asked "Yes but which conventions are we following?" "Hell", shouted Eric Baich, "Jon Oxley will jump bid you all." "Hmmm" sighed Louis Hill, "You're all just a bunch of jokers!!"