

## Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor

As universities across Canada, and UPEI in particular, face severe financial restraints, students will be required to provide more money in the form of tuition fees to enable their favourite institution to continue offering an adequate range of programmes.

Students are already questioning the implications of the Axworthy report which will undoubtedly increase students' debt-load unless, of course, they choose to stay out of debt by not going to university at all. This latter option may be the only one for many students. So, despite higher tuition fees, the revenue that universities can generate may well decline because of a smaller student body. And lower revenues will entail less staff and fewer course offerings.

It was, therefore, interesting to hear our recent presidential candidates making noise in favour of increasing the presidential budget by the hiring of an assistant within the office, referred to in many larger institutions as a vice-president. While this position is commonplace in many institutions where it is sometimes required to share the load of presidential work occasioned by a large student body, and sometimes to make a smaller institution feel bigger, it has never been required at UPEI through three presidential regimes during which none of the incumbents has collapsed or resigned from presidential exhaustion. It should be noted that, administratively, this university already enjoys a plethora of deans to assist the president.

That the presidential candidates should talk in terms of vice-presidents either betrays a lack of knowledge of the history of this place or an ignorance of our financial plight, which is already preventing us from maintaining active teaching positions. This is no time to ask a smaller student population to bear an even bigger burden than necessary.

The administration of UPEI has successfully endeavoured to cut administrative costs, an example of which has been the reduction of office hours in the registrar's office. It would not make much sense to spend those hard-won savings on a new administrator whose doubtful usefulness to the students must be weighed against the loss of a reasonable choice of course options available to students in fulfilling their degree requirements.

Thank you,  
A.R. Galloway

Anyone wishing to make a comment on the state of the world may do so in a *Letter to the Editor*. We love to print your letters, and the only things we need are your name and number, for legal reasons. Names can be withheld upon request.

# Arts & Entertainment

x-press

You don't have a calender yet!?!?!?  
Well, just in case you missed our page o' calenders last issue, here are a few more. Calenders are going for 50% off right now. What are you waiting for? Go buy a calender!

## The 1995 Far Side Wall Calender

Gary Larson

This calender is everything a wall calender is supposed to be. It's big, it's colorful, and best of all, it features a dozen huge *Far Side* comics. These run the gamut from mildy funny to utterly hilarious.

There is ample space to jot notes on individual days, and extra areas for memos at the top and bottom of the page. This calender will command the place of pride on my closet door. In the words of Statler and Waldorf from *The Muppet Show* "I loved it!"

-- Marko Peric

## The Dave Barry Calendar

This is my first journey into the realm of daily calendars. I have long been a fan of the Dave Barry travel guides and other works, and found this calendar to live up to all my expectations. Its quips are much like Jack Handey's *Deep Thought* series in its twist of daily experiences. While nothing in this collection will enlighten your life, or teach you a new word every day, it is guaranteed to make you smile on an otherwise dreary Monday morning.

-- Aldera Chisholm

## Siskel and Ebert's 1995 Desk Calendar

You know 'em, you love 'em. They're a neat way to keep track of the days and a messy way to collect trivia. They're those funky Andrews and McMeels read-them-once then tear-them-off desk calendars.

You know the format: 365 pieces of paper printed with a useless fact or piece of artwork to make each day a little more enlightened. I've never quite known what to make of the darn things. I mean, do you keep 365 pieces of loose paper or just throw them in the trash when the day is over? And are there really 365 fun quips from Siskel and Ebert?

The last question has an answer: No. The Siskel and Ebert desk calendar grants you your trivia wishes in the form of star birthdays and deathdays, as well as marking such events as the opening of the first disco (Argh!). It's the S&E part that bugs me: your daily quote from the criticdom's answer to the Spratts is usually a pointless observation about how wise a director was to pick this actor for that movie, or a personal favorite scene or gag from the dead comedian of the day. It's all rather dry and boring and just generally uninteresting. Even at 50% off, it just ain't worth the trouble of tearing off that little slip of paper.

-- Trent Drake

## The Jeopardy Daily Calendar

Some people would think that I am crazy, but being a *Jeopardy* fan, I jumped for this calender when it appeared.

This is a daily 'tear off' calender. One category runs for a week, and on the weekends there is a double Jeopardy and final Jeopardy answer. The answers are on the front and questions are on the back.

I love it. I try a different 'answer' each day. Surprisingly enough, I am not the only one who likes it. Several of my friends have already flipped through it trying to 'question answers'. The answers are little bits of fun trivia. This is a great idea for Jeopardy fans like me, and for trivia buffs. The only thing missing is Alex Trebek, but with a little imagination, he is there.

"I'll take 'Food and Drink' for \$200, Alex."

-- Yvonne MacKean

All of the above calenders are published by the good folks at Andrews and McMeel. Most are available at local bookstores.