



Algoma University's Student Newspaper


The Sentinel

February 1995 - Issue Five

Algoma University - Ranked 'MacLean's' Style

	ALGOMA	PEI	Brock	Lakehead	Laurent.	Nip.
<u>Student Body Statistics</u>						
Average Entering Grade:	19	5	7	17	18	15
-Proportion 75%+ :	17	13	3	16	19	17
Prop. Who Graduate :	NA	3	15	10	14	NA
Stud. From Outside ON.:	12	6	18	15	16	18
Student Awards :	17	5	9	7	11	17
<u>Classes Statistics</u>						
1st+2nd Year Class Size:	1	9	19	16	10	15
3rd+4th Year Class Size:	5	12	17	18	11	10
Tenured Faculty Classes:	9	18	14	17	10	6
<u>Faculty Statistics</u>						
Faculty with PhD.Deg. :	14	17	1	12	11	10
Awards Per Faculty :	7	7	2	7	6	7
Humanities Grants :	18	10	11	13	16	18
Science Grants :	14	15	3	7	8	18
<u>Financial Statistics</u>						
Operating Budget :	2	3	18	14	5	8
Scholarship/Burs. Bgt. :	15	10	17	6	18	14
Student Ser. Budget :	1	12	14	10	19	4
<u>Library Statistics</u>						
Holdings Per Student :	11	9	15	17	7	6
Acquisitions :	18	3	8	4	11	1
Library Expenses (Bgt.):	1	16	5	11	7	10
<u>Reputation</u>						
Alumni Support :	13	12	17	6	14	NA
Reputational Survey :	NA	16	9	12	14	18
=====						
Not-Available Factor :	0.83	1	1	1	1	0.93
Weight Rank :	11	10.64	10.91	12.34	12.76	13.12
=====						

(All rankings out of 19, where a '1' indicates best)

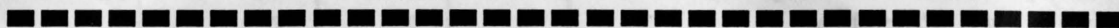
So where did we get these numbers and what do they mean? 

@!\$##%@@%! SAULT STAR BEAT ME TO THE PUNCH: WHAT THEY DIDN'T SAY IS
IN A FIELD OF 24, ALGOMA RANKS TWELFTH!

The previous page displays the statistics that would have been applied to Algoma University had we been included in the MacLean's 1994 survey, according to Doug Lawson. Given that the magazine clearly stated the calculations used to arrive at their results, he simply applied them to ourselves, and was pleasantly surprised by the results.

The field size for the rankings consists of 19 primarily undergraduate institutions across Canada, including PEI, Brock, Lakehead, Laurentian and Nipissing. There are in actuality 24 such universities, as 5 chose not to participate. According to MacLean's however, it is predicted that they all would fall below Algoma in the rankings (presumably explaining their reluctance!).

Algoma was not included in the calculations of Laurentian University, nor was it included in its own right since it does not grant its own degrees. Hopefully this oversight will be corrected should Algoma become Shingwauk U. Another idea that Mr. Lawson has considered proposing to the national magazine is coverage of Algoma as part of an extras-and-alternatives section, an idea supported by our favourable showing. Cross your fingers! With that kind of coverage, we could become a more highly considered option for post-secondary education. *



Editor's (Drudge's) Column:

"Once again, for yet another semester I stubbornly insist, rain or shine, on publishing our student newspaper. Slaving over the keyboard I wearily translate unintelligible handwriting into computer script on WordPerfect, then drag myself up to the computer labs to import, gradually, painfully, one document after another into Aldus Pagemaker, translating each into special fonts, carefully arranging them to fill up the pages - inevitably finding a small corner or two with nothing to fill it up and writing mindless drivel to entertain the masses at my own expense - ah, woe! Alas! Then its off to Student's Council to print out the finished document on the most cranky laser printer ever born, page by excruciating page. Sorrow! Then its off to the photocopier upstairs which unhappily plays the role of printing press, often overheating in its misery - then out comes the stapler, and copy by copy I painstakingly attach these pieces to become a blissful whole, carefully placed monthly in the bookstore and library, then agonize that they aren't disappearing fast enough until at last they are gone - until next month, in the meantime of which I sweat it out, wondering if a month is enough time for me to collect another eight pages of material - ah, woe is me!"

Truth is, I LOVE this job (you'd love it too if you recieved letters addressed to 'Editor-in-Chief, etc.). I've gained all sorts of useful knowledge about computers, journalism, and that lousy photocopier upstairs, the granddaddy of which is no doubt waiting for me at my future job (okay, so I don't like *that* part). So here I go again - you'd love it too! A little help would be great, but most importantly I look forward to your articles. Surely you don't all lead such boring lives that you have nothing to say - let's hear from you soon!*

Students Continue Their Struggle To Penetrate Ontario's Job Market:

Unemployment among students continues to be a serious problem in this province as the jobless rate of those aged 15 to 24 jumped to 16.5% in October, from 15.8% in September of last year. Graduates are also struggling, as the youth unemployment rate for those with a university degree has risen to 9.4% in 1994, from 6.4% in 1990.

Ontario's youth is still battered by the recession, as adult employment rose almost half a million from two years ago, and is about 5% above its 1989 peak. "It's discouraging to find that there has been no improvement in the youth unemployment rate during 1994," said Kevin Makra, president of the Student Employment Network.

In fact, Ontario's jobless rate is falling largely due to the number of young people who have simply dropped out of the labour force over the past year. The most recent drop in the province's unemployment rate is being attributed to the 37,000 men and women under 25, who have decided to stop looking for work.

A Word From The GREEN Party

Paul Thompson is a first-year student at Algoma University, and the local representative of the Green Party.

Greetings, fellow A.U.C. students.

The Ontario Green Party has been called the established fringe, but I prefer to refer to it as up and coming. The party started in Germany in the late 1970's and ran for the first time in the Canadian Federal Election in 1984.

The principle which best sums up our platforms is sustainability pushing for the use of re-newable alternatives to non-renewable resources. We also preach more local, self-supporting economies rather than a global economy.

Main-line parties don't have the guts or confidence to defend the environment in the face of polluting corporation. We see the logging of the last 1% of the temperate rain forest in British Columbia and the incredible rise in cancers because of toxic pesticide use in Ontario.

We propose a shift away from income tax to a non-renewable resource tax. In the 1950's and 60's we taxed labour because it was in short supply and resources were plentiful. Now we have an abundance of

Competition is so intense that students are losing entry-level jobs to adults with years of experience and skills.

The Student Employment Network has been dedicated to responding to the needs of discouraged youth looking for jobs. "Although more youths are staying in school to secure valuable jobs upon graduation, this extra education will no longer guarantee a place in today's job market. Companies are becoming increasingly interested in the experience and specific skills that a student can bring to the job - not just education alone," states Makra.

This month, the Student Employment Network released **The 1995 Ontario Student Employment Guide: A Job Seekers Guide to Ontario's Top Employers**. Published and distributed by the Student Employment Network, it gives students essential information to understanding companies and establishing full time, part time or summer employment. (cont'd over)

labour, and resources are either in short supply or unacceptable to use because of the toxins they produce. The benefit will be the elimination of polluting technologies and lower unemployment, due to the fact that people would be cheaper to hire.

The Green movement has become less trendy and more institutionalized. Corporations are now voluntarily conducting environmental audits. The Ontario government just recently passed an Environmental Bill Of Rights, while the federal government is working to eliminate the use of chlorine in paper mills. As long as the mainstream parties keep stealing our platform, we're in business. As soon as they can't absorb environmental and social equity ideas, we have to take over the government. We intend to capitalize on the current voter disenchantment with the main parties.

We saw in the last Federal election the volatility of the voters. We saw how the Reform and the Bloc were catapulted very quickly into the mainstream. I wouldn't be surprised if we become a serious force in this election. Please help me make history in the next Provincial election, and vote for me.

The Sentinel claims no affiliation with any one party. Given the resources, we would seek similar articles from all candidates, but unfortunately this is not possible. Other candidates are welcome to submit similar articles of reasonable length at no charge, since the election is an important concern to our students -ed.

(Job Struggle, cont'd):

ment. With over 370 pages of information, it helps bridge the communication gap between what employers look for in a potential candidate and what students expect from the job market. The information includes company profiles with academic qualifications required by each employer, and goes a step beyond to include specific personal skills they desire in an employee. The guide gives students the extra advantage needed in today's competitive job market.

The Student Employment Network is an organization committed to providing students with a practical, on-going source of employment information. The firm was created by Kevin E. Makra, a recent graduate of the University of Toronto. The company works closely with university and college career centres addressing the employment needs of youth.

Mail order for the student guide:

\$17.99+\$1.26 GST+\$3 shipping to the following address:

STUDENT EMPLOYMENT NETWORK
Ordering Department
117 Gerrard St. E., Suite 802
Toronto, Ontario M5B 2L4

International Development Workcamps

-CFS Report

The Canadian Federation of Students-Services, with funding from the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) Youth Programme, will offer 12 Canadian youths the opportunity to participate in a Costa Rican workcamp programme, through the Asociacion de Apoyo y Promocion de Ideas para el Desarrolla (APID).

APID is a non-governmental organization working to strengthen Costa Rican society through the provision of technical and organizational assistance to a diverse network of social groups. Its primary focus is to study and strengthen the role of youths in community development.

APID will provide participants with an extensive orientation to the programme and to the culture and development issues faced by Costa Rica. A language training programme is included to help participants function in the host community. A 10 week workcamp programme will be organized in a local community followed by evaluations in San Jose and in Toronto. Participants will follow up with volunteer activities in Canada to involve members of their local communities.

All projects are managed by local APID staff in cooperation with a local community organization. While at the workcamp, participants will live and work with members of the host organization.

Pending local scheduling, the program will operate 8-10 weeks starting last week of Feb. or first week of March, 1995. Participation cost is \$1700, which covers travel, food, accomodation.

For more information, contact: International Development Workcamps
Canadian Federation of Students-Services
243 College St., 5th Floor
Toronto, Ontario M5T ZY1

Fax: (416) 977-4796 E-Mail: CFSSERV@IO.ORG

Students' On Strike: All The Dirt On January 25th's Spectacle:

Don't hold your breath; the big news about our big strike is that there isn't any.

Don't read this like a news report - this is a complaint! Granted, waving signs around down by the bus stop may not have seemed like it would do any good towards cancelling impending tuition increases, but the national news was covering the strike at noon and had the malicious pleasure of reporting that overall the turnout was rather disappointing - and I know *that* did even less good.

But my quarrel isn't with those who chose to stay in class - you at least made a choice about where your priorities lie and decided it wasn't worth the trouble. The ones that get me upset are those who said to themselves 'Oh, cool, a day off!'. Some classes didn't have that many students; the number of absences conspicuously outweighed the number of students marching up and down the sidewalk.

So what's up with these people? Here's my prediction for 1995 - this fall, these are the people who'll be complaining loudest when they lay down \$4000 for tuition, because they chose to ignore the issue until it descended on their heads out of the blue. They won't get my ear.

I can sympathize with the growing attitude that tuition increases are just plain inevitable, and that they were going to come sooner or later by one increase or another anyway. I can even get a glimpse of the attitude of 'what good will it do for me to miss my classes and just be one more student out there freezing my butt off?' What I can't understand is this 'day off' syndrome. There's something the least bit hypocritical about a student who pays all that tuition to attend classes and then proceeds to use the rest of the semester dreaming up ways to skip out! Wake up, people!*

FUTILITY

The sunrise greets a sparkling dawn
And all the world is warm and bright
And in the antiseptic room a
Child is born. Rejoice
Proud parents, for in this room a miracle
Has just occurred. The powers of the universe
Have stopped but for an instant, while
This struggling, wailing creature, wrinkled
And ugly, has fought to take one breath.
A year has passed, then two, then three
While baby learns to crawl then
Walk and talk and smile. Ambition
Grows within his heart. One decade
Gone. School well begun. Another
Decade passes. College waits. Summer passes.
One final fling. The headline read: 'Tragic
Death on Highway One.' Futility.

-D.M.(Denny)Eddy

HEY YOU! This s... could have been
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**SPACE IS LIMITED
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SOLD OUT!**

So what if you've had a lousy day? "Only a mediocre person is always at his best" - Maugham's Thought

FICTION:

The Traversal

The presence of the strange bridge was not what the journeyer found most curious.

It was a bridge.

It was bent over like a rainbow, rising in a graceful arch to cross the gurgling stream, here in the woods where the sunlight streamed down through thick branches. I approached along the old, overgrown path, wondering why such obvious craftsmanship had been used along a such little-travelled path, or why the path was such when graced by highlights such as this.

When I arrived at the foot of the bridge I intended to cross, there was a funny little man perched on the bottom step. He peered up at me from his crouched position, bent over his walking stick as he was, and his wizened face leered at me.

"Ya'll never git across it", he cackled. "Too steep, too damn high. Never make it."

I didn't reply, only stepped past him; there was barely enough room, and though he had no power to stop me it was still a tight squeeze as he wouldn't move for me. He only muttered as I began my ascent, leaving him there to attempt warning off other travellers.

The slope of this bridge required stairs to be mounted, and I was surprised at their size as they forced me to exert myself mightily in some instances as I fought my way up. Yet this did not give me pause; I grew more determined than ever to see what awaited me at the top.

The stairs became more difficult, until the last which was almost the size of myself and required the utmost effort.

The climb proved to be well worth it, for the view from the summit of this structure was one of unusual clarity, for from here I could see far and wide across the treetops to distant mountains, and the sun in all its glory, unimpeded by branches, and I could look down from here and see clear to the bottom of the brook, much more

clearly than if I had simply gazed in from its banks.

For several moments I pondered staying here for a while, but having seen this wonder in the midst of the woods my curiosity was piqued, for I questioned what other surprises might await me on the trail ahead.

I descended the other side of the bridge, which was of very much better construction, and shortly I arrived at the bottom, only to find myself once again in meeting with the wizened old man. This time he graciously hobbled aside as I set foot on the ground.

"You thought I couldn't make it, but here I am", I admonished him.

"Pah!" he laughed. "Many have crossed far more difficult bridges than that one. Your accomplishment is hardly worthy of their respect."

"I don't recall," said I, "ever seeking any such thing. It was on personal grounds I crossed that bridge, and I received my reward at its summit. True, there are likely greater rewards to be had - but I could not reach them without first achieving this one, and I am even now on my way to find them. Begone!"

With a snarl, the old sprite vanished, no more to bother me. I resumed my journey, left to wonder once again why the trail appeared so unused. Could it have been the difficult steps? Yet their difficulty was evenly matched by the benefits of the view at the top; the bridge's construction contained an inherent balance.

More likely it was the old man.

-C.C.

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THE FAULTS OF MULTICULTURALISM

- C. Crowder -

Why spending millions of dollars to enhance cultural awareness will accomplish nothing in the fight against racism.

For the same reason I dislike racism, I dislike multiculturalism. Both are irrelevant and unnecessary in an ideal society, since both put emphasis on an irrelevant aspect by which to judge people - their race (i.e., their culture).

For too long, multiculturalism has hidden behind the banner of fraternity, as a national policy to supposedly draw its citizens together in spite of perceived differences in culture and tradition. This, frankly, is logically fraudulent. Emphasizing differences is not the way to prove they don't matter.

I do not care whether I am black or white. It doesn't matter to me whether I am male or female, and I refuse to be judged based on biologically-geared sexual preference to physical appearance. What country my ancestors came from or what famous acts they may have accomplished have no bearing on myself whatsoever. It is morally fraudulent to claim superiority based on personal association with someone of renowned accomplishment. To earn your pride, you must achieve that accomplishment yourself. Nothing less is expected of you; to be a great person, you must become that person, not stand in the shadow of someone great and thereby claim a portion of that silhouette as your own.

When I talk to you, I am not going to judge you by what your grandparents accomplished or where they came from (including that location's cultural traditions and religion). All that is going to matter to me is what you have accomplished yourself; your dreams and goals, your aspirations. All this relies on the individual. It is only when we can judge everyone this way that we will truly be free of racial prejudice. It is only, in a sense, by perceiving each other as individual units that we will ever find commonality. Being an individual is really the only thing we all have in common.

Those who support multiculturalism do not agree.

It is only, they say, by making us aware of

(cont'd over)

IN ANTICIPATION OF VALENTINE'S DAY: A THEORY OF LOVE

As any psychologist will tell you, similarity attracts.

Each of us as individuals has our own system of values, based on our own decisions and preferences and what we have come to decide upon as being right and wrong. Most of us have settled into our ways by our early twenties, and thus we live the rest of our lives.

When you ask yourself who you are, everything you value comes to mind - it is what defines your individuality, your personality, some would say your soul. Having come to your own personal ranking, obviously you have a high degree of confidence in its being correct. Therefore, looking outside of yourself, you are most interested by that which verifies your view of life, that which fits into your scheme. In the process, you develop an affinity towards others who share your views. In fact, their existence becomes a comfort to you - their similarity in choices, i.e., their character or personality, i.e. their very existence, is a confirmation of your viewpoint, and it is with them that you feel most comfortable.

Naturally we have a great deal of respect for anyone who treasures what we value. Respecting someone means that what they think is very important, maybe even enlightening, in your life, because you know they are seeing things the same way you do, and you value their input.

Admiration may also occur; perhaps this person has fulfilled or confirmed their values, which you share, in an admirable fashion or in a creative way you hadn't thought of.

If you both respect and admire each other, if you both take pride in similar acts,

(cont'd over)

each other's family history that we will ever reach understanding. Only by observing each other's traditions will we become one. It is only (they say) when we emphasize the enormous variety in our nation's cultural diversity that racism will be defeated.

favourable light. But, if multiculturalism were to claim any legitimacy in its fight against racism, it would instead go about displaying what we have in common: a desire to succeed as individuals, a desire to become great in our own right, not tag along on the coattails of our ancestor's reputation or our cultural heritage, neither of which involved any personal achievement on our part to attain. A millionaire's son has not earned his millions; though he has a right to his money, he will have to accomplish something himself to become noteworthy to others. And so it is with our cultural heritage; something to be treasured, but not to be identified by.

In other words, if I were a racist, promoting the type of attitude multiculturalism was intended to attack, then instead of teaching me not to judge others based on race, I would simply be told I ought to like them instead, out of respect.

We should not be racists for the simple reason that race doesn't matter. That is the why. Multiculturalism doesn't say this; in fact, the very existence of multiculturalist policy logically contends with it!

After all, that is what racism is.

enjoy similar things, seek to achieve similar goals, love is possible.

We are so eager to fall in love, not because it's 'fun', but because finding someone you can fall in love with is the discovery of an external verification of your view of the world. Love can 'just happen', because it's involuntary in that respect (you might say it happens whether you want it to or not).

When you find someone who represents everything you care about, love will quickly follow. - C.C.

Well, I *wouldn't* have written the whole damn thing if *you'd* handed something in - get with it!