

Closed doors sadden SU officials

by Lucinda Chodan

Varsity Guest Weekend (VGW) is off this year but some Students' Union officials are unhappy about its cancellation.

SU president Dean Olmstead, SU vp external Tema Frank and Clubs Commissioner Jan Byer have all expressed dissatisfaction with a Board of Governors decision two weeks ago which replaced VGW with extended campus tours and high school liaison projects.

Clubs commissioner Byer says he will attempt to organize a protest to the cancellation at the next Clubs Council meeting Thursday afternoon.

"I don't agree with the policy of cutting it (VGW) right out," Byer says. "From the clubs' point of view, it gives them a lot of exposure with the university and the community at large."

Byer says poor advertising was largely responsible for VGW's failure in the past and adds "I think this is the best possible way of getting people interested in the university in general."

Byer says he has been contacting clubs and suggesting they write to the office of Community Relations, faculty deans and university president Myer Horowitz protesting the cancellation of the weekend.

"We have had some clubs say, 'We're going to go through with it regardless', says Byer.

SU president Dean Olmstead has also announced intentions to protest the cancellation of VGW.

Olmstead says although he approves of the B of G's recommendations, increased emphasis on high school liaison leaves the community out in the cold.

"When the government is not being liberal with their funding ... and when the university is being run with community funds, it's not being fair to the community."

Olmstead says he will be expressing concern to Dr. Preshing of the Office of Community Relations about the cancellation of VGW.

"Instead of a campus-wide VGW, a scaled-down version featuring a few faculties a year would still involve the community," says Olmstead.

SU vp external Tema Frank says she is "very disappointed at the whole way it was handled." She says after assuming responsibility for the weekend, the

board cancelled VGW without informing interested students.

"It was taken to Deans' Council and I wasn't informed about what had happened...until the next thing I knew, there was a motion going to the board to cancel it."

Frank says the action has "removed any emphasis at get-

ting out to the public-at-large."

She says she is aware of some clubs organizing a protest to the weekend's cancellation.

"Whether we do anything depends on whether students make their concerns known," she says.

"But it may be too late to do anything for this year."

Getting to know you

The results of a pilot survey completed by 100 university students last spring has been released by the Office of Institutional Research and Planning.

The survey was undertaken to supply various groups interested in university affairs with information concerning demographic characteristics of U of A students.

Phil Davidson of Institutional Research and Planning says the results of the final survey, which was circulated to 1200 students this fall, will be completed by March.

"We'll do some basic analyses and concerned groups can tell us if they want some particular aspect explored in more detail," says Davidson.

He says finances were one of the most important considerations of the survey.

Aside from revealing problems with some of the

questions, the pilot survey also discovered that:

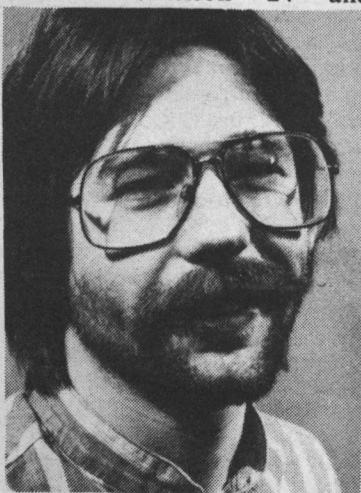
- 57 percent of students think their parents' income is greater than \$24,000
- 35 per cent of students most frequently study in their own bedroom
- 42 per cent of students use public transportation to get to campus
- that 43 per cent of students think *Gateway* is of limited value (Ed. note: must be something wrong with this question)
- 73 per cent of students say they are very familiar with *Gateway* (a higher percentage than those who say they are very familiar with the calendar of their faculty).
- only 29 per cent said they were very familiar with campus radio station CJSR
- 38 per cent of students have found it necessary at some time to take a part-time job while a full-time student.

Oh boy, Evoy wins

Paul Evoy won the Friday election for arts representative to the General Faculties Council (GFC).

Less than three per cent of the eligible voters in the Faculty of Arts turned out at the polls. Votes were cast by only 64 of the 2,919 members of the arts faculty.

Paul Evoy received 34 votes, Scott Thorkelson 24 and



Paul Evoy

Norbert Lorenz, four. Two ballots were spoiled at the polls, which were located at the main foyers of Fine Arts and Tory Buildings and the Humanities Building Pedway.

Returning office Sue Savage said, "These by-elections are notorious for having low turn-outs. The campaign was very low-key, with only one candidate (Paul Evoy) making any attempt to put up posters."

Evoy, a fourth year economics student, said he was very glad he was elected. He said some of his primary concerns are the lack of study space in libraries and the hours of their operation and the student evaluation of professors, which has been before GFC for two years.

The election was held due to the resignation of Kevan Warner, former arts representative to the GFC. The election was originally scheduled for October 19, but was postponed when the Students' Council ruled that the vacancy had been inadequately advertised.



The money keeps rolling in. A Business and Commerce Undergraduate Society (BACUS) representative gives Refugee Committee treasurer Ed Bell a cheque.

Writer speaks for family

Maria Campbell, renowned Canadian author and U of A writer-in-residence, will speak at a benefit luncheon sponsored by the Students' Union refugee committee.

The luncheon, one of a number of activities organized to raise funds to sponsor four Indo-Chinese refugees will take place

in Dinwoodie Lounge November 28.

Refugee committee chairman Ed Bell said the luncheon "is our invitation to faculty members to show their support for the campaign."

Speaking of the campaign in general, Bell said he is "very optimistic", but stated that to be successful the committee re-

quires the continued support of the entire university community.

Other fund-raising activities organized by the committee include a cabaret in Dinwoodie Lounge November 17, a raffle, weekly bake sales and the showing of ski films.

The refugee fund now stands at \$3207, while committee members hope to raise \$10,000.

Nuclear apocalypse now

"The first strike capacity of the United States military presents an immediate possibility of the end of the world."

James Douglass, one of two speakers at last Friday's forum on nuclear weapons, concluded his presentation with this chilling forecast.

Speaking to an audience of about one hundred people, Douglass, and his wife Shelley, outlined what it means to "live in the nuclear age," and what they have done to oppose the proliferation of nuclear weaponry as members of a Washington state organization called the Ground Zero Center for Nonviolent Action.

No busy signal

Brrring, brrring...no answer.

The Cutbacks Committee's phone-in campaign has been cancelled.

The committee proposed a late November campaign to allow students to protest government funding inadequacies. Telephones were to be installed in CAB and students encouraged to phone MLA's with their concerns about cutbacks.

However, due to lack of student awareness, the campaign has been "postponed indefinitely," says Boris Wiggers, Cutbacks Committee chairman.

"The drive has now become

Opening the forum, Shelley Douglass outlined her assessment of the current American military situation. She said even though the US has an official policy of deterrence, its actual nuclear weapon-building is aimed at offensive strategies. She summarized American fears, saying the US believes "the person who starts the war will win." The real objective of the American military, she said, is to build up an overwhelming arsenal that would defeat the Soviet Union before it had time to retaliate.

James Douglass described the aims of the Ground Zero Center and stressed its non-

one of showing students and the general public the real issues concerning inadequate funding," says Wiggers.

He says regular public meetings are part of the committee's new profile. Meetings will be held every Monday at 3:00 p.m. in Room 142 SUB.

Wiggers also says the committee will try and publicize the committee's postcard campaign. "We're trying to complete the campaign by Friday, so we'd like students to fill in the cards as soon as possible," he says.

The Students' Union will send the postcards to the government requesting more funding for post-secondary institutions.

violent nature and its community-oriented philosophy. Built immediately adjacent to the Trident nuclear submarine bases in Washington, the first objective of the Center is to stop the building of the Trident submarine, he said.

The group has organized several peaceful demonstrations at the Trident site, gaining access by climbing the steel wire fence around the site. Douglass spoke of these protests as "seeing the fence as a green light, not a red light." He said joining the anti-nuclear movement involves a profound change in people. "Our perceptions of fences as barriers must change," he said.

The tremendous destructive power of the Trident submarine was noted by the Douglasses. The submarine will carry a number of missiles, each equipped with enough nuclear warheads to create "several hundred Hiroshimas."

But the Trident "is a product of our entire system," insisted James Douglass. "The US government are war criminals, and the nuclear arms race is being fought by insane men," he said.

He spoke of the need for "peaceful opposition" to the military minded state of the American government and its continuance of the nuclear weapons race.

"The U.S. are the aggressors in the arms race," said Douglass.