

Matheson meteorological mechanic?



Keith Wells

Bill Matheson keeps his eye on the "Idaho High" with the help of the U of A satellite map.

by Keith Wells

Every night of the week, like some kind of meteorological mechanic, Bill Matheson over at

ITV "repairs" the U of A satellite map.

Wait a second, U of A satellite map? I've heard Matheson and his CFRN counterpart Eric Neville mention that for years. But I mean really, does the University have its own bird in the sky?

No it doesn't.

So the question remains, where is the University getting these photos from?

I found the answer in the Meteorological Department, on the second floor of the Tory Building.

Since the early 1970's the University has been accessing NOAA, the National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration satellite.

Circling the globe in a south-north polar orbit at an altitude of 862 kilometres, the American satellite provides visible and infrared images of earth for

weather stations the world over.

At a speed of 15,000 kph, NOAA makes about 14 orbits of the earth daily.

"Two passes by the satellite are of interest to us," says Nacim Aktary, a second year Phd student in the department. "If an orbit takes the satellite right over Edmonton, the next pass will be exactly 25.5 degrees further west."

Via their receiver in Ellerslie, the department takes information from the two passes and records it to tape: an image is produced by computer and the resulting map is dedicated to paper.

ITV and CFRN receive the maps daily for their weather reports. And the Geography Department (meteorology) uses them every day as well, for student weather briefings.

It was just something that was on my mind, and darn it, I'll sleep better tonight knowing I found the answer.

DISCIPLINE, INTERPRETATION, AND ENFORCEMENT (D.I.E.) BOARD 7 FEBRUARY 1989

Re: Appeal by
Terrence J. Lipovski
Disqualification from the Students' Union Elections

The Discipline, Interpretation & Enforcement Board supports the decision of the Chief Returning Officer to disqualify Terrence Lipovski as a candidate in the upcoming Students' Union Elections.

The Board finds that a recent statement endorsing Mr. Lipovski's candidacy printed in the U of A Ski Club Newsletter violates several provisions of the Students' Union Election Bylaw 300. First, the statement falls within the definition of "campaign" contained in section 2.d of the said Bylaw. Consequently, the endorsing statement constitutes pre-election campaigning, which is implicitly prohibited by section 12.c of Bylaw 300. Second, the Board finds that the statement within the Ski Club Newsletter

constitutes club sponsorship of an election candidate, also prohibited by section 12.c of Bylaw 300. Finally, the Board finds a violation of section 14 of the Bylaw in that the statement in question was not submitted to the Chief Returning Officer for approval.

The Board finds Mr. Lipovski responsible for these violations because his stated intention to run in the Students' Union elections makes him a candidate within the meaning of this Bylaw. (To place any other interpretation on this issue would render Bylaw 300 totally ineffective.) As a candidate, Mr. Lipovski had the duty to make himself aware of the rules surrounding the election and to ensure that he was not associated with the violation of these rules. The Board finds that these obligations were not met, given the facts of this case.

As a result of the combined effect of the violations noted above, the D.I.E. Board finds that the election would be unfairly prejudiced by Mr. Lipovski's continued candidacy. The number of people who actually saw the offending publication is uncertain. The disqualification of Mr. Lipovski is, therefore, made via section 25 of Bylaw 300.

In addition to the above judgment, the D.I.E. Board recommends that a specific definition of "candidate" be included in the Students' Union Bylaw 300, in order to facilitate future decisions.

Respectfully submitted,
DISCIPLINE,
INTERPRETATION AND
ENFORCEMENT BOARD

BARBARA A. GLOD
Chair (1988-89)

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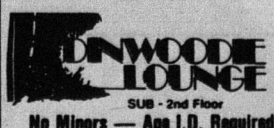


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