

CROSS CANADA NEWS

No star search for OSU

TORONTO (CUP) — Ohio State University has dropped out of an Arizona observatory project that is under fire from native and environmental groups.

Citing financial difficulties, OSU withdrew its support on Aug. 9, leaving the University of Arizona, Germany's Max Planck Institute and the Vatican to foot the \$80 million bill. The group needs two more partners, and one interested party is the University of Toronto.

Lack of donor interest and government funding cuts have made it impossible for OSU to pay its \$15 million share, said OSU official Earle Holland.

Ernie Seaquist, head of U of T's astronomy department, said university administrators have yet to make a decision.

Church sued by Ojibway

TORONTO (CUP) — A northern Ontario Ojibway band is suing an Anglican diocese for \$10 million, claiming the diocese sold land in trust to fund native education.

The suit also names Algoma University College which purchased over 35 acres of the Ojibway's 90 1/2 acres in 1975.

Ron Irwin, lawyer representing the First Nations Garden River Band, says the church originally bought the land on behalf of the bands in 1874, because natives weren't allowed to own land.

Although it was supposed to have been kept in trust for native education, the church sold off most of the land and constructed clergy houses on the remainder, Irwin said.

"What the hell's that got to do with native education?" he said.

The land was originally home to the Shingwauk school for native children, built in 1873 with funds raised by band chiefs and an Anglican reverend. Through a series of land sales, Shingwauk was slowly integrated into the public school system, and is now part of the Algoma University College campus.

Needle exchange stops HIV

VANCOUVER (CUP) — Across Canada, the handful of people who run needle exchanges are trying to keep HIV — the virus thought to cause AIDS — out of the intravenous drug-using community.

The Vancouver programme is run by the Downtown Eastside Youth Activity Society, an 11-year-old group organized to help young people living on the street.

For the past two-and-a-half years, a nurse specializing in sexually transmitted diseases and a needle exchange worker have patrolled downtown Vancouver six nights per week. Every month they distribute up to 10,000 needles to IV drug users from their inconspicuous van.

Other needle exchanges exist in Victoria, Montreal, Halifax and Toronto.

Canadian cities with exchanges have not experienced the same increases in the rate of HIV infection as their U.S. counterparts without similar programmes.

DEYAS coordinator John Turvey credits the needle exchange with the low HIV-positive rate among Vancouver street people.

U. Sask loses job centre

WINNIPEG (CUP) — Members of the University of Saskatchewan student council were shocked three weeks ago when they discovered their newly-built, student-financed Canada Employment Centre was slated to close.

"We had heard rumours of cuts for a while, but we only learned for sure by reading the papers," said Georgina Neilon, a council vice-president.

Other universities such as the University of Manitoba were opened in September 1990 and funding will run out in April 1992. "[The federal government] turned around and slapped us in the face by cutting our funding," said Wayne Ingjaldson, a council executive member.

He said the interview appointment service provided by the centre is important to students in smaller cities like Saskatoon because they aren't close to employers.

"It's one thing when you are going to the University of Toronto where the businesses are right downtown," he said.

CUP is Canadian University Press a co-operative of over 50 student newspapers from St. John's, Newfoundland to Victoria, B.C.

Since 1938 CUP has served four common needs of student papers: an exchange of news and features, an exchange of journalistic skills, a mutual support network and a national advertising network.

NEWS

Controlling the arms trade

BY MARY-JANE HAMILTON

Ernie Reghr, national researcher for Project Ploughshares, gave an informative presentation at Dalhousie University last Thursday night on controlling the arms trade.

Reghr began by explaining the origin of the arms trade, and its relation to the Gulf War. "The Gulf War... illustrated for many what happens when you have an unrestrained arms trade and when you don't exercise gun control effectively," he said.

Although arms sales have diminished, Reghr strongly suggested that Canadian policy include measures to control our arms export. Reghr defines a "war" as a conflict which involves government armed forces and has resulted in more than 1,000 deaths. There are cur-

rently 30 wars ongoing in the world.

"This fall, for the first time ever, a parliamentary sub-committee is going to be holding public hearings and a public assessment of Canada's own military policy," Reghr said. "And also the way in which it can engage in international measures to control the international arms trade."

He said although Canada is "a minor player [in the arms trade] compared to the U.K. [United Kingdom], the USSR, and the U.S... we need to begin working more directly and effectively on the issue [the arms trade]."

The United Nations will address the idea of creating a United Nations Arms Trade Register in a resolution of the General Assembly this fall. This would mean that when a government exports a mili-

tary commodity, they will have to register and report it to the United Nations. This would only be a reporting measure, not a control measure.

Reghr said Canadians should support the Register because "there would be greater security in knowing what your adversary has" and countries would not be building up weapons based on a "worst case scenario."

It would be difficult for Canada to create weapons for our own purposes. Reghr suggested that if Canada made its own weapons for strictly security measures and not commercial measures, export orders and "our estimation of what we will need will grow."

"We have made for ourselves a stake in the continuation of the arms trade," Reghr said.

During a discussion, doubts were raised about the idealistic nature of the solutions Reghr proposed. Reghr admitted there were problems with alternatives to the arms trade, but he said, "We need sanctions instead of preparing for war," when an incident like the Gulf War occurs.

Ernie Reghr teaches a Peace and Conflict Studies program at University of Waterloo. He is the author of many articles regarding the arms trade and Canada's role in the arms trade, and two books entitled *Arms Canada* and *Road to Peace*.

This presentation was sponsored by Project Ploughshares & Lester Pearson Institute's DAL-Outreach Programme.

Greening Dalhousie

BY JOEY GOODINGS

Over the summer, Dal became a little greener.

Mike Murphy, the Manger for Environmental Services for the Physical Plant, has been intensifying the recycling program on campus.

Whereas there used to be only 20 barrels for recycling paper amongst the SUB, Physical plant, and Law building, there are now between 100 and 110 barrels. Murphy says they have collected 30,000 pounds of paper since April. Aluminum can recycling has also expanded at Dal with over 40 barrels on campus collecting over 2000 pounds of aluminum cans.

Much of the effort to be more environmentally sound pays for itself, says Murphy. Recycling saves Dal the cost of sending garbage to a landfill, which is \$38 per ton plus the disposal fee.

When Murphy was hired last April, recycling was added to the list of responsibilities for the job, which also include custodial services, grounds, trucking, and mail services on campus.

Aaron Cosby of CEAG (Campus Environmental Action Group) is impressed by the Physical Plant's efforts. "As a scorecard for how hard they're trying on environmental issues, I'd rate them highly," he said.

But the students could try just a little harder. Murphy says that generally he has had little problem with the recycling bins, except once when, 25 per cent of the aluminum can barrels were rejected because of contamination. Part of the problem was a lack of signs on the sides of the barrels explaining what can and cannot go in. According to Murphy, the situation has improved.

At some point, Murphy hopes to have an environmental audit in order to gain a better understanding of what needs to be done to make Dal more environmentally sound. Such an audit would require the participation of a number of different departments at Dal.

Murphy says that in the future he hopes to include glass products and newsprint as part of the recycling program, and he would like to find ways to make Dal more energy efficient.

Gorbie in trouble

BY NORMAN PEREIRA

In the aftermath of the failed coup of August 19-21, the once all-powerful Communist Party has been banned in several Soviet republics, and suspended at the Union level pending investigation of its role in the conspiracy to topple Mikhail Gorbachev. All but four of the USSR's fifteen republics are now independent. Leningrad has changed its name back to St. Petersburg, as have several other places such as Sverdlovsk/Ektaerinburg where the last tsar and his family were killed by the Bolsheviks in 1918. There is even talk of closing down the Lenin mausoleum and removing the remains of the founder of the Soviet state to his family's burial plot.

After his three days under house arrest in the Crimea, Gorbachev returned to preside over these monumental events. But in the turmoil of the moment, it was easy for observers to lose perspective of what he had accomplished since 1985. Boris Yeltsin and a handful of others (notably Leningrad mayor Anatoli Sobchak) came to the fore

in daring opposition to the eight-man Committee of State Emergency and the apparatus of coercion presumed to be at its disposal, while many leading "democrats" and even vocal anti-Communists maintained discreet silence. Had the commanding officer of the KGB's elite Alpha Group followed orders to storm the Russian parliament building, Yeltsin and his lieutenants would have been arrested and executed, which most likely would almost certainly have broken the resistance.

Indeed, a more ruthless or better organized coup might well have produced results similar to those which ousted Nikita Krushchev from power in 1964. During the first day — Monday, August 19 — spontaneous popular opposition was not widespread. In response to Yeltsin's call for a general strike,

only the militant Siberian miners complied in large numbers. The initial rally in Moscow outside the Russian Republic's "White House" was attended by no more than ten to fifteen thousand people in a city

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