

Some people want to be immortal through their achievements...

The Gateway

Tuesday, December 2, 1986

I want to be immortal by not dying

Woody Allen



Energetic Parachute Club performed last weekend see pg. 7

photo Dragos Ruiu

PAAP tries to change porn views

by Cam McCulloch

Six of the ten top selling magazines in Canada are pornographic. An Edmonton group called Positive Action Against Pornography (PAAP) is determined to change that situation.

Valerie Parr, spokesperson for the group, says PAAP aims to educate the public about the adverse effects of pornography on women, children, and men. In order to achieve this goal, PAAP is distributing a diverse information package which includes several definitions of pornography.

PAAP itself defines pornography as "any material that degrades human sexuality through the depiction of physical harm, an imbalance of power and/or suggested or blatant humiliation.

The information kit also lists some examples of pornography as found in photos, films, and writings.

Included in the examples of offending material was the infamous Rolling Stones billboard, as seen in Los Angeles in 1976, which depicted a bound woman and bore the inscription "I'm Black and Blue From The Rolling Stones — And I Love It!"

The package also gives examples of apparent links between pornography and violent crimes such as rape.

Parr urges people to write Justice Minister Ray Hnatyshin with their views on the pornography issue. The group hopes to influence the redrafting of Bill C-114.

This bill was introduced by the Conservative government in June in an attempt to deal with obscenity and pornography in Canada. However, Bill C-114 was shelved in August after which the federal government announced plans to reintroduce a revised version of the bill before Christmas.

Parr claims that obtaining legislation against pornography is not the group's main goal, though she admits "idealistically, our goal is to see the porn industry go belly-up." She adds that "most people

would agree that legislation against violent forms of pornography is desirable and necessary."

Besides the information package, PAAP organizes speakers for schools and community leagues, and holds self-esteem workshops. Lack

of self-esteem, says Parr, is closely linked to pornography.

Once people realize that pornography is evil, Parr says, "the public will stop supporting the pornography industry."

Associated with the Edmonton

group is Media Watch, a national women's organization, based in Vancouver, dedicated to eliminating sexual stereotyping in the media.

The Positive Action Against Pornography information kit, which

includes Media Watch pamphlets, is available in person or by mail, at the group's office at #202, 10006 - 149 St., T5P 1K8. Or you can phone 486-3409.

Letter campaign to halt fund cuts

by Cam McCulloch

Here's your chance to tell Don Getty you're unhappy.

Michael Hunter, Student Union V.P. External, is organizing a massive campaign against the Alberta government to stop cutbacks in education funding. But he needs your help.

Starting in January, students will be asked to mail in postcards of protest to four ministers in the provincial government, including Pre-

mier Don Getty.

The postcards will remind the government that a well-funded education system, from primary to post-secondary, ensures a more stable future for the province.

Hunter is looking for students who can distribute the postcards in class and collect them once they are filled. He is also looking for help with phone banks to be set up to lobby the government.

Hunter says the ideal would be

five or six hours of volunteer time per student.

This drive to stop cuts in education funding does not only involve university students.

Besides the University Administrations and Student Unions of the province's three universities, Hunter is looking for involvement from professional associations of all kinds. Along with the Alberta Teachers Association and the Public and Private School Boards, Hunter is hopeful that everyone from the Chamber of Commerce to the Plumbers and Pipefitters Union will get involved in the letter-writing campaign.

Accompanying the 250,000 postcards will be advertisements on radio and in the newspapers. Hunter says a mark of success would be 100,000 or more postcards returned: "Even if all we do is tax the mailing system at the legislature it will impress upon the government the seriousness of the issue."

Serious might be an understatement.

The possibility of rising tuition is coupled with cutbacks in student finance. Hunter says "this amounts to a formula of limiting accessibility without admitting it. Some students continued on pg. 6

Pro-Gainers petition

by Randal Smathers

There is a petition circulating on campus that is a direct reaction to the ND-supported anti-Gainers petition delivered to Dr. Horowitz last week. The student who organized the petition, John Serink, says he got the idea from the Nov. 12 Gateway article on the ND Club's name drive.

Serink, upon reading that the NDs had "only scraped up 47 names in a residence of 1200 people" felt it "should be pretty clear that their idea is not too popular."

He said he noticed in his three years on campus, that "special interest groups are controlling" student opinion, because most students are too busy to be politically active.

He felt the petition could be expressing a false idea of student body opinion, so decided to start one of his own.

It is a private project for Serink. "I am not trying to organize a group," he said. "Whenever I have time I go out with the petition and a copy of the Gateway article and show them both to people, and ask them if they would like to sign."

"I did the east side of CAB at lunch. So far I have 240 names out of 265 people I asked," he said.

He added that he has encountered some opposition from ND members.

"I've been called a redneck and an imperialist. I get told that guys (working at Gainers) have kids to feed. My dad's got kids to feed too," he said, "Students don't have a lot of extra money to pay for food. I just want to see that housing gets the best deal at the best price. They get the best deal from Gainers and they've been dealing with Gainers for years. I just don't like people deciding things for me."

Inside this issue:

Video... pg. 11

Robots on campus... pg. 3

Hoop Bears win Invitational... pg. 12