

# Acadia dispute lingers

by Kevin Law

The 283 professors of Acadia University rejected a last minute tentative wage agreement with Acadia administration that would have avoided a strike.

The labor dispute has been lingering since September 15 when the Acadia faculty association members rejected an initial offer from the University's Board of Governors. At that time, professors voted in favour of strike action in a bid for raises that would see their paychecks achieve parity with other Maritime universities.

A last minute deal was reached on the 15th, however, that was supposed to be ratified by the faculty association. But two days later, the faculty tossed back the administration's offer.

According to F.P. Sherrard, reporter for the Acadia student newspaper *The Athenaeum*, both sides had agreed Acadia must pay competitive salaries. But Acadia

administration was unwilling to make the plan more than a "letter of intent", which would have no legal status.

Unspecified concessions would also be required from faculty in the future, in order for the "letter of intent" to be implemented. Faculty members refused to endorse such a "weak, non-binding intent."

Professors then engaged in public demonstrations, formally boycotting a Board of Governors luncheon and an official opening

of a library extension.

A group of students with musical instruments supported the faculty by playing spontaneous songs that commented on the situation.

Jackie Langille, editor in chief of *The Athenaeum*, said another agreement was offered on October 17. It was finally ratified by the faculty association five days later, on October 22.

Langille said it was a one year agreement with a 4 percent cost of living raise and a 2.25 percent wage parity clause. "Renewal of the contract on July 1 could mean more of the same next year," Langille said.

# Debate sparks fly

by Shelby Cook

Sparks flew between political opponents at a Students' Union sponsored all-candidates forum, Thursday.

Despite mid-terms, over 200 enthusiastic students filtered in and out of SUB theatre to watch Strathcona candidates debate

campaign issues such as free trade, NATO, and abortion.

The forum included presentations from New Democrat Halyna Freeland, Reform Party candidate Doug Main, Liberal Una MacLean-Evans, and Conservative Scott Thorkelson.

Thorkelson made a surprise appearance, despite persistent rumors that he disliked forums and would not show up. "When I was told all other candidates would walk out, (if he did not attend), I decided to come," he said.

Plans had been made to have David Kilgour, M.P. PC Edmonton Southeast speak on behalf of Thorkelson. Apparently the time change of the forum, from Friday to Thursday, created difficulties for Thorkelson. Later, SU executives confirmed that other candidates would not show up if Kilgour, from another riding, was



Mary Joyce, candidate for the Marxist-Leninist party, voices her concern to a less than pleased Dave Tupper about being excluded from last Thursday's all-candidates forum.

present.

Hecklers shouted frequently during Thorkelson's speech until the moderator, Michael Hunter, requested cooperation.

Main was fervent in his attacks on Thorkelson, calling him "Mulroney's invisible friend."

Freeland was booed when promoting the ND commitment to removing Canada's military forces from NATO. She also questioned the federal government's commitment to women.

McLean-Evans promised financial aid and jobs for students.

She later commented that she was unhappy with the forum "because all the questions (during the question period) were directed at one candidate."

Mary Joyce, and Peggy Morton, candidates from the Marxist-Leninist Party said they were disgusted at the "arbitrary and undemocratic" method of selecting candidates for the forum, and interrupted the question period to promote their causes.

So-called fringe parties were excluded by Students' Union because they had not registered with the Strathcona Chief Returning Officer at least sixty days prior to the day of the writ, admitted the two candidates, who still felt they should have been included.

Several students heckled and later commented it was unfair that other, smaller parties were not included.

## Correction

**GMAT LSAT GRE**  
(Graduate Management Admission Test) (Law School Admission Test) (Graduate Record Examination)

**WEEKEND TEST PREPARATION COURSES**  
 University of Alberta  
**LSAT - Nov. 18-20, GMAT - Jan. 13-15, GRE - Please Inquire**

- Includes Sexton text book, lectures, and
- One Year personalized services
- Instructors hold PhD, MBA, or LLB

**Sexton Educational Centers**  
PROFESSIONALS IN TEST PREPARATION

**CALL: 459-7261**  
 Correction to previous Gateway Advertisement

# Panda/Bear Mania

Wednesday, November 2nd  
 Fantasy Nightclub  
 7:30 p.m.



Tickets: \$5.00  
 Drink Included



Tickets Available from the  
 Department of Athletics  
 and any  
 Golden Bear or Panda Athlete

let the government hear the student voice—  
 —protest cutbacks to education

# sign the scroll

one week left, the scroll petition is located at s.u.  
 info booths in hub, cab, and sub.