

EDITORIAL

It'll be Reagan again

In effect, what the five minute broadcast from the Oval Office Sunday night meant is another four years of Ronald Reagan. President Reagan needed about that much time - and \$400,000 for prime-time space - to declare himself a candidate for re-election.

It was as simple as that. And re-election will probably be that easy for the "Great Communicator."

Ronald Reagan is in as strong a position for re-election as any president since Dwight Eisenhower in 1956. And, as was the case with Adlai Stevenson, the Democratic challenger in 1956, there isn't a democratic candidate likely to capture the imagination of the American public.

Certainly the leading Democrat, former Vice-President Walter Mondale, though a competent and experienced politician, is not capable of challenging Reagan in a high-powered personality campaign.

Even a certified American hero like former astronaut John Glenn is already floundering on the campaign trail - a victim of the intense media scrutiny that any presidential candidate must endure.

Increasingly, political campaigns are becoming show business exercises that are perfectly suited to the formidable campaign talents of former actor Ronald Reagan.

Reagan combined his considerable personal charm with the accurate assessment that what the American electorate wanted was a strong president to decisively defeat Jimmy Carter in 1980.

Despite a mixed record over the last three years - inflation and interest rates are down but the budget Reagan said would be balanced by 1983 now contains a \$200 billion deficit - Ronald Reagan has been a strong president.

His "evil-empire" anti-Soviet rhetoric may have effectively scuttled debate and returned us to a perilous climate, but to many Americans Ronald Reagan has restored their nation's prestige and America's pre-eminent world place following the debacle of Tehran.

Reagan is perceived as a leader with definite principles and goals and definite ways to achieve those goals. His intention to re-affirm "what America is" - to strengthen traditional American values - has struck a sensitive chord in the US and many Americans have responded.

Although his inflexibility and insensitivity to a variety of issues has cost him support among minority groups, the other elements of the Reagan persona - the toughness, the image of the single-minded, decisive leader - have proved to be political gold to Reagan.

To defeat Ronald Reagan in 1984, the Democratic candidate must convince the American voter that he will be as strong and as effective as Reagan in dealing with serious issues.

But more important than that, Reagan's opponent must out-perform him in front of the cameras on the world's greatest stage.

On this stage, Ronald Reagan is very much at home, and possibly the world's greatest actor.

Neal Watson

Let's kill the wolves

The provincial Fish and Wildlife Department claims to protect wildlife, but with their latest move, one wonders how they can do this by blowing up animals.

In answer to declining big game populations the province has decided to follow BC's lead and blast away at big game eating wolves from helicopters. This is about as fair as shooting fish in a barrel.

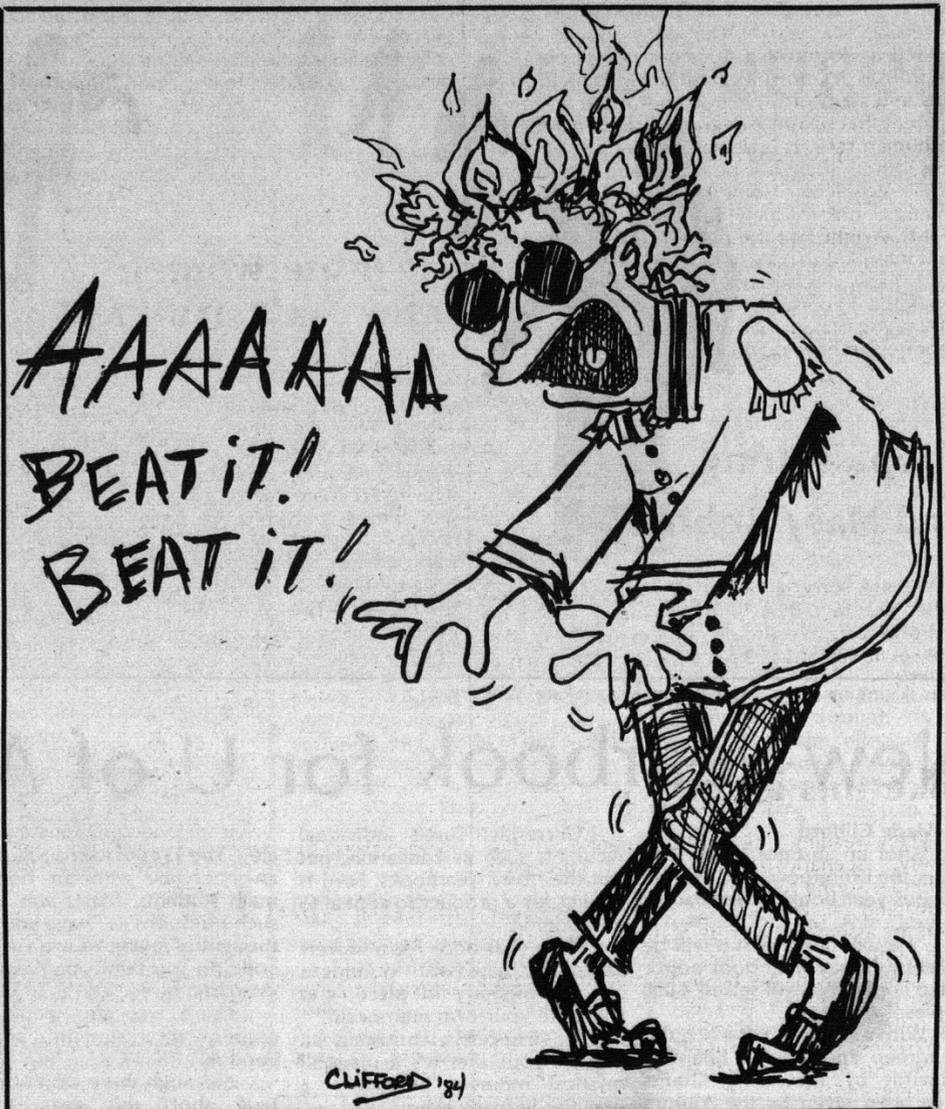
Instead of doing the ecologically logical thing and cutting down on the number of big game animals hunted by leisure seeking hunters (and tourists, for that matter) the province has opted instead to wipe out the big game animal's natural foes. Fish and Wildlife is willing to sell out Alberta's ecological well-being for a few measly tourist dollars.

Canada is the wolf's last refuge in the free world. Every other nation on the globe, with the exception of the USSR has eliminated their wolf populations. The US, for example, has managed to exterminate wolves in all 48 continental states with mass hunts such as the proposed Alberta helicopter massacre.

Canada's wolves are a world heritage, and our wise and judicious Tories should be reprimanded as severely as a government proposing the razing of the Parthenon or turning the Louvre into a disco.

In fact, if we advocate shooting any dumb animals from helicopters, we should start with Alberta MLA's. Let's face it, these old boys ain't nobody's heritage.

Gilbert Bouchard



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

What was the name again?

With regard to last Tuesday's article on the cabaret featuring the Ozark Mountain Daredevils, we would like to point out a few misconceptions. First off, the warmup band was not the *All Stars* but rather *Livestock*, the Agriculture Club's band. Secondly, the article goes on to say that the band was plagued by sound problems. To the best of my knowledge, there were but a few minor problems during our first few selections; the exception being a power failure later on. I hasten to point out that the problems were not in any way the fault of the band, as many interpreted it, and that the Ozarks encountered such difficulties as well.

I do not know where you acquired your information, but the correct name of our band could have easily been found by asking us.

We in the band, expect that any paper, including the *Gateway*, that is responsible for accurately reporting happenings on campus, should print a formal apology to *Livestock* in its next issue, for its previously mentioned shortcomings.

Greg Henderson
Director, Livestock Band

The censor's full potential

This letter is written in response to the article entitled "Board gives okay to controversial Med Show" by Gilbert Bouchard. In the article Mr. Bouchard says that SU Business Manager Tom Wright doubted the abilities of anybody in the SU to decide what is or is not objectionable.

This statement in itself is evidence of the policy of isolationism Mr. Wright has adopted for himself. If he were to make it his intention to get to know members of the SU I am absolutely sure that he would think it necessary to at least modify his extreme opinion.

Such broad generalizations which he appears to be in the habit of making reveal his ongoing self-made policy of making off-the-cuff statements which do not reflect student opinion. I suggest to Mr. Wright that he has really made a statement about himself and his own lack of self-assuredness, self-esteem, and self-awareness. I know a number of members of SU and I have absolutely no doubt that each of them is fully capable of recognizing that which is sexist and objectionable.

Also, I am sure that if Mr. Wright would allow his full consciousness to spring forth he would

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Hail to the Chief! Gilbertologists come out for Ronnie. Bernie Poitras, Jordan Peterson and Patrice Struyk head the dirty tricks committee. George Koch, Warren Opheim and Marie Clifford have applied for matching grants to pay off the federal deficit. Neal Watson, Brad Karpinka, and Ken Shipka are ready to go out on the hustings, once they figure out what hustings are. Jim Moore and Basco Chang are in charge of Nancy's wardrobe and dress her from head to toe each morning. Tom Santabob, Tim Kubash, Paul Holloway and Bonnie Zimmerman are preparing to nuke Moscow for the re-inauguration. And while Ronnie naps, Algard chants: "Four more years, four more years."