

Committee finding Oscar innocent

by Richard Watts

The University Disciplinary Committee voted unanimously to discount both complaints brought against Oscar Ammar for disrupting a forum.

In December Hillel sponsored a forum featuring an Israeli military spokesman, a Colonel Levy, to speak on the war in Lebanon.

Ammar, along with others, attended the forum and shouted down and heckled the speaker. The others were members of the organization which dubiously calls itself the People's Front Against Racist and Fascist Violence. The forum was eventually closed down and moved to another location.

Carolyn Devins, on behalf of Hillel and Professor Berkowitz of Mineral Engineering, brought two complaints against Ammar for his actions. One stated that Ammar subjected Carolyn Devins to undue Mental and/or Physical abuse; the other complaint stated that Ammar had disrupted a legal activity on campus.

Both were discounted. The panel ruled that Ammar made no deliberate attempt to humiliate either Devins or the Hillel organization.

The panel stated that Ammar's behavior would have been unacceptable at a non-political event, the forum was indeed a political event and therefore such activity should have been expected, particularly since the forum occurred when the Middle East was in such a sensitive political climate at the time.

On the outcome of the forum Ammar said, "I'm glad, I'm really glad."

However, Ammar added that he regretted having to hire a lawyer.

Carolyn Devins was disappointed over the outcome of the proceedings.

"I think there was a principle to be upheld here and it bothers me that this sort of thing could happen again," she said.

Professor Berkowitz was not so philosophic.

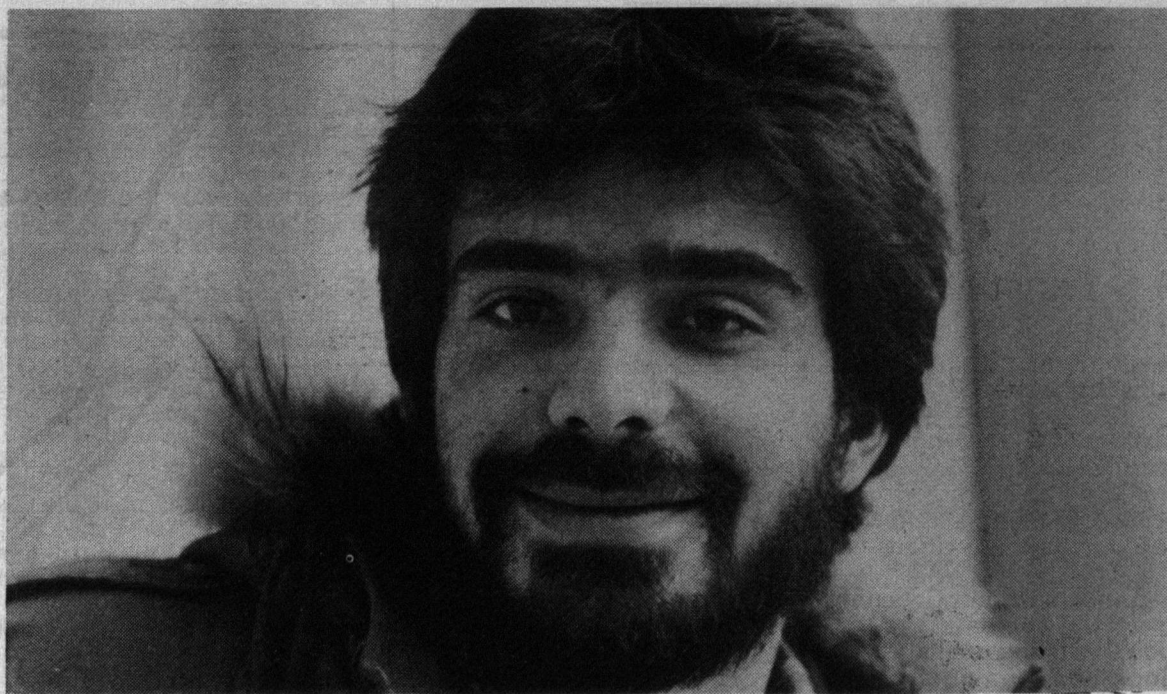
"I am outraged. I was not seeking Mr. Ammar's dismissal but a reprimand was in order to demonstrate to the university community in general that Mr. Ammar had acted wrongly and should not do it again."

Berkowitz also disagreed with the panel's judgement that Ammar "had learned from this experience."

"By his own testimony Mr. Ammar said that he wasn't sorry and that in fact he'd do it again!" said Berkowitz.

Asked if he had learned from this experience Oscar grinned and said, "We'll just call it a good political experience, a good political experience."

Berkowitz concluded, saying that Ammar's behavior had gone beyond heckling and was "totally unacceptable in a university environment and this should be demonstrated to everyone on campus" so that special forums would not be endangered in future.



Oscar Ammar...fulfilling a university's political expectations.

Independents in interview

by Sandy Vickerson

The Gateway approached the two independent candidates in this year's Students' Union election and asked them why they have shunned the more conventional slate system.

Martin Schug is hoping to be elected as VP External.

Schug is running as an independent because, "It has always been that there is strength in independence, I mean break up the slates and one will find that each candidate cannot function autonomously, they heavily rely

on each other to perform vital operations. Dependence is a weakness which the students cannot afford. By voting as an independent one is assured that the right decision will be made at critical points."

When asked why he chose the position of External, Schug replied, "I would say I feel most comfortable in the External office and believe I can perform my duties best when I appreciate the atmosphere."

You might have noticed Martin Schug's poster in the hallway. It fully exposes his torso, and is so sexy that girls have been ripping them off the walls and taking them home. Some have accused him of selling his body in order to buy votes. Martin responds by saying, "I was surprised at the publicity it was getting, but as campaigning progressed I found the negative reaction to be a symbol of the Victorian mentality still present in many people today."

Schug concluded saying, "The problem with the Students' Union is two-fold: There is not enough emphasis in capital generation, this is quite obvious by the fact that they're going to ask your permission to raise the fees, and secondly there is not enough student involvement within the decision-making process."

Wes Sawatzky is running as an independent candidate for the Board of Governors student representative.

Sawatzky says he is running as an independent because "I would like to see the Board of Governors be able to view their problems which will be encountered from as many different viewpoints as possible, which will not be the

case if two candidates from the same slate are elected.

Sawatzky claims that, "Due to the serious financial situation the Board will likely ask for a 22 percent increase. Students simply can't afford a 22 percent increase."

Sawatzky, this year's VP Academic also said, "It appears funding for the university will be increased by only 5 percent. Educational inflation will run from 13-15 percent. Obviously the University will be in a dire financial situation. As a result, the Board will be forced to examine alternate means of balancing the budget- such as increasing tuition and limiting enrollment."

Sawatzky would not like to see fees go up because students cannot afford it, but proposes a fee increase as a solution to the dire financial situation of the Board.

Sawatzky is concerned about the decline of the education system due to easy entrance requirements. He would like to see the faculties of Arts, Science, and Education raise the high school average which is now required for University acceptance. This will result in smaller classrooms and a better quality of education.

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Greenhill eats campaign words

by Mark Roppel and Ken Lenz

Chief Returning Officer Glenn Byer has asked Presidential candidate Robert Greenhill to retract a campaign pamphlet which contained factual errors about the Federation of Alberta Students (FAS).

"All the pamphlets which Greenhill has or that he comes across must be on my desk tomorrow morning," said Byer.

The Greenhill Team's second pamphlet states, "Both the University of Calgary and the University of Lethbridge have bailed out of the Federation of Alberta Students this year."

"That is totally false," said opposing Presidential candidate Bev Therrien. "They (the Univer-

sity of Lethbridge) are one of the strongest and most active supporters of the Federation." The U of C has pulled out but the grad students are "still active supporters," said Therrien.

The pamphlet also said, "Grand Prairie Regional College and Lethbridge Community College remain to represent students and GPRC and LCC are threatening to withhold their fees." This is also misleading. "The referendums for these colleges (concerning the withholding of fees) are in August," said Therrien. "One person from GPRC, Brenda Mason, is on the FAS Executive as a Member at Large."

Finally, the pamphlet claims,

"FAS costs the students at this University alone 70,000 per year

and they want us to pay more than twice that amount and join the national component (CFS)?" "This is a long-term policy," said Therrien.

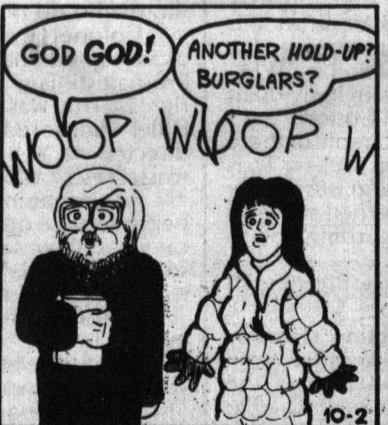
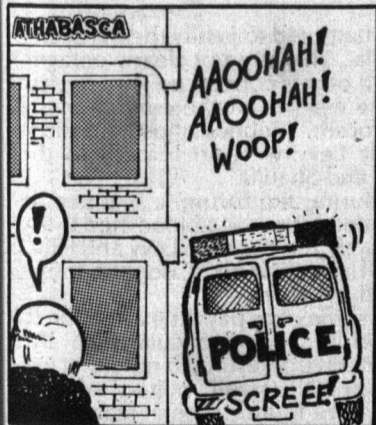
Don Millar, VP External candidate on the Therrien Slate, is President of FAS; The Therrien Slate views the Greenhill pamphlet as a personal attack aimed at Millar.

"That pamphlet is a bunch of lies about FAS to discredit me," said Millar.

When asked if this incident could result in either the election being overturned (should Greenhill win) or Greenhill's impeachment, Glenn Byer replied, "Anything could happen."

BAZ

by SKEET and Nielsen



Greenhill announces proposed Bookstore sale Secret memo goes public

by Ken Lenz

Students' Union Presidential incumbent Robert Greenhill may be in hot water over the reading of a confidential document at yesterday's election forum.

"I have a feeling there is going to be a big stink about this," said SU Business Manager Tom Wright.

The document was a confidential business memo sent by Wright to the University indicating a willingness to negotiate the sale of space for \$750,000.

Earlier this year the SU executive decided that the proposal should not be used as a campaign platform, mainly because the memo was confidential. Greenhill may receive censure for breaking this executive confidentiality.

The memo stated that the sale would be advantageous to both the University and the Students' Union. The University would receive the space at below market

value, and would probably also receive a subsidized mortgage from the provincial government making their monthly payments smaller than the rent they pay to the SU at present. In fact, the University would save about \$51,000 per year in rent.

The SU could more than eliminate the 550,000 debt with the money, and regain some of its solvency.

Greenhill read the memo when a student at the forum charged him with unfairly criticizing the Therrien Slate for using the sale of the Bookstore as part of Therrien financial campaign.

Greenhill says the proposal to sell the Bookstore was initiated by this year's executive, therefore they should receive the credit for the idea.

Therrien claims that she has checked reliable sources around

the University and contends that no formal negotiations have begun.

Greenhill counters, "Although it may be true that no formal negotiations have begun, it is still politically irresponsible to use this platform, claiming the idea is theirs, when it has already been initiated by this year's executive."

However Therrien maintains that if negotiations were in fact beginning then this year's executive should have obtained a mandate from Council.

Greenhill could be taken to the Discipline Interpretation and Enforcement (DIE) Board, but it is likely that he would suffer little more than censure (a slap on the wrist) from Students' Council.

Therrien said that at present she has no plans to take Greenhill to DIE Board.