

## Executive forced to stand alone

by Martin Levenson

For the first time in years, the Students' Union is in direct control of students.

Recent departures of Business Manager Todd Phillips and Finance Manager Ryan Beebe have left remaining personnel scrambling to keep the operation running smoothly.

SU executives and administration members admit that elected students are not competent to run the SU alone. They are not qualified to evaluate job performance, or control the day to day operation.

"No one can expect [SU executives] to have the experience necessary to run a \$5 million a year operation," said Tom Wright, former SU business manager and Gateway advertising manager.

SU president Paul LaGrange agrees with this assessment.

"When a new executive first walks in each year," he said, "they have to rely on their predecessors and the [professional] management while they are fam-

iliarizing themselves."

Current restructuring comes on the recommendation of Phillips and Wright.

Positions are being combined in response to Phillips' perception that office procedures were not efficient and that some personnel were not being properly utilized.

Asked why Wright had not spotted the problems, LaGrange pointed out that Wright had simultaneously been holding the position of advertising manager. If Wright had only been business manager, LaGrange suggests, "he should have seen it."

SU executives "may have been overestimating how much time he was spending in his capacity as Business Manager," said LaGrange.

LaGrange admitted that the student executive "did not have a complete and total grasp over what people do in their jobs."

He suggested that this was a flaw arising from the yearly changeover of elected officials and could not be avoided.

LaGrange stressed the importance of a good administrative staff. "there's no question that they shape the policy of SU," he said.

"They provide information about everything... about what kind of wood to use in counter tops to the annual SU budget."

He went on to say that the position was a powerful one, and that the potential is there for abuse.

He explained the procedure for hiring a new General Manager, combining the former positions of Business Manager and Finance Manager.

The SU is conducting an executive search, using Peat Marwick Group in an advisory capacity.

Wright supported the idea of using a consulting firm, but pointed out "no matter what firm you hire, what do they know about the SU operations?"

He also expressed concern about the hiring committee, which as of last Friday had not been picked.

## Muslims miffed

continued from p 1

which could be considered offensive by Muslims, mostly related to the portrayal of the prophet Mohammad and his wives.

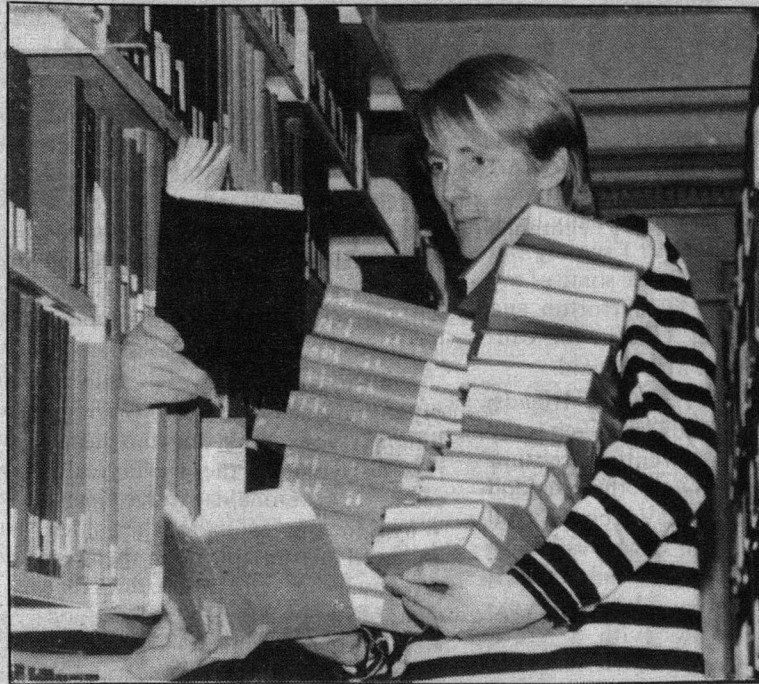
Sadiq compared *The Satanic Verses* with the teachings of Jim Keegstra and the film *The Last Temptation of Christ* in the offensiveness caused to the Canadian Islamic community.

"We (Canada) have not people to express their opinions about Hitler and about the Holocaust... Why? Because it hurts the beliefs and sensitivities of our Jewish community. Shouldn't the same rules and norms apply for all communities in this society?" he said.

Sadiq invited the mostly Muslim audience to read the book themselves "if you can handle the filth."

"The national community is consulting lawyers to challenge this in the courts," said Sadiq, for whom the issue is not banning the book but rather "the principle of (blasphemy) offending communities whether it be this book or the Christian Last Temptation of Christ."

Sadiq said that Westerners do not understand the Islamic point of view on the matter and hopes that "both sides try to control their emotions and understand what the issue is."



Hard working in the library. Nonce Bosky, 1st year medical student, stocks up on research materials with the help of some friendly hands in the next aisle.

Sadiq feels that the Canadian government did not take Muslims' feelings into consideration when reviewing the book. However, he feels this is now a moot point and the Islamic community will "pursue the matter as far as we can" in the courts.

Sadiq also feels that the media bears a good deal of the blame for portrayal of Muslims as "fanatics

and terrorists" explaining the bombing of the British library in India as the work of people "gripped by emotionalism."

Sadiq would not comment on the reward for Salman Rushdie's death made by the Ayatollah, saying the Western media could have distorted the Iranian leader's words.

**A FOUR LETTER WORD WE SHOULD ALL USE MORE OFTEN.**

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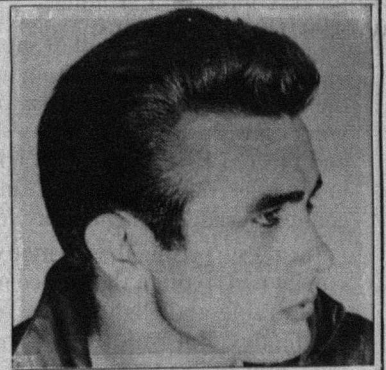
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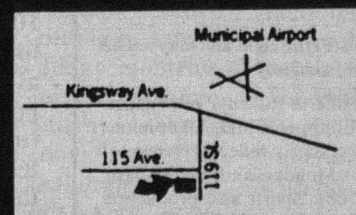
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