

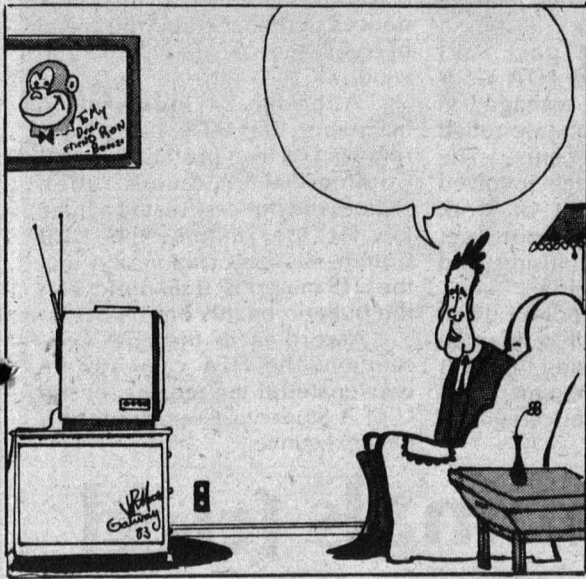
doing?...besides baffling this Gateway reader, that is.

The finances of the project also have me befuddled. What does Mr. Phillips mean by "capital money" and where has it been hiding all these years? Could someone please explain in terms at least comprehensible to an accounting major, why it could only be used to buy houses? Finally, assuming that (as President Horowitz says) the University has

"some money to invest" in houses and only houses, how does the University expect to obtain any rate of return on its "investment" in these houses, let alone a competitive one?

I hope I'm wrong but I get a strong impression of futility in this house-buying project, one way or another.

Kathleen Moore  
BusinessIII



## THE GREAT CARTOON CONTEST

OK, we've done it now, you see we had this really disgusting caption for the cartoon to the left. Well, our great chief Brent took one look at it and promised me great bodily harm if I ran it. So now I have a big problem: no caption. So here's the deal. Help me out and send me in captions so I can complete the cartoon and not look so stupid. Send in your captions before this Friday noon, and I'll run the best ones in the Gateway's Cartoon Special Issue next week and treat the grand prize winner to a great one course meal at HUB burgers (OK so I'm cheap).

Gilbert

## SECOND WIND

by Gunnar Blodgett and Ninette Gironella

The Canadian Federation of Students (CFS) purports to be the major lobbying group for Canadian students. To be truly effective, any lobby group must be credible, both in the eyes of the people it claims to represent and the people it is lobbying. Unfortunately, the credibility of CFS has been undermined by the surprisingly unilateral stands taken on some very controversial issues. A large group of people, even students, cannot be said to share opinions on abortion or nuclear power. Therefore, CFS cannot afford to take rational stands on these issues.

Yet, this is effectively what CFS does, thus jeopardizing its all-important credibility. The policy directives (policy motions that have passed one of the two meetings needed for them to become stated policy) established at the founding conference in 1981 and the first general meeting in spring of 1982 indicated the potential for CFS to overextend itself in the political arena. It seems that CFS wants to tackle all the issues, from individual rights to international affairs.

There are, of course, many policies set by CFS which are admirable. The right of "disabled students to easy access to all institution buildings" and "the right to a legitimate appeals procedure in all cases of penalization" as well as many other policies are appropriate concerns of students.

Yet, to support the declaration that "women whose state platforms are consistent with the policies of CFS can be encouraged to run for political office at all levels of government" is to get into a political situation with which many students may disagree. Moreover, the aim of this policy is unclear; if the intent is to get more women into politics, why do they need to toe the CFS line to get student support? If the aim is to have elected officials who are sympathetic to the student movement, why do they have to be women?

CFS also treads on the ground of moral opinion in its policy that "all women must be guaranteed the freedom of choice in the matter of abortion." This is not an issue on which a national students' organization should take a side. There are already groups specifically lobbying on this topic, and there are people who are students on both sides.

This is not to say that students are unconcerned about women's involvement in politics, abortion, world peace, the situation in El Salvador, or other areas CFS takes stands on. Most students today get quite riled at the injustice that occurs in today's world and often get involved in specific lobby groups. However, international politics and moral issues should not be within the purview of CFS; as a student organization it should focus, perhaps narrowly, on educational accessibility, the quality of our education, and academic appeals processes.

## THE BLADE

by Dwayne Chomyn

Policy - the Students' Union is full of it. The SU either supports or condemns El Salvador, Poland, Zimbabwe, South Africa, and Cambodia. The details are unimportant, the principle is clear - the SU supports "justice" and abhors "injustice". From cannabis to Cambodia we have a stand.

In a way, the policy manual illustrates the best and the worst of the SU. On the one hand, the manual represents the willingness to look beyond the confines of campus and the desire to promote democracy and peace. On the other hand, it illustrates an unfortunate failure to complete initiatives.

Consider, for example, the SU policy on disarmament. In January of this year, council passed a motion which condemned the "proliferation of nuclear arms and the development, production, transportation, storage, and testing of these weapons and their guidance and delivery systems." In essence, this might be interpreted as an anti-Cruise missile initiative.

The motion doesn't end there, though. The SU boldly proclaims an intention to "support all efforts to publicize the social and economic consequences of maintaining the arms race." Finally, the policy directed the External Affairs Board to choose a city in both the US and the USSR and encourage the University in that city to pass a similar resolution.

The amazing aspect of this policy has been the ability by some individuals to keep it council's little secret. As the debate about nuclear weapons in general, and the Cruise missile in particular has heated up, councillors have quietly sat on their hands, trying to ignore the policy. Two external

commissioners have totally ignored a responsibility to execute policy.

Indeed, no attempt has been made to bring to the attention of the community the position of the SU on this important issue. No attempt has been made to publicize the consequences of maintaining the arms race. No attempt has been made to select other universities and encourage them to pass similar motions.

Perhaps if the policy were deemed confidential and a forum was held Greenhill, the SU president, would read it to the spectators. He should. After all, he supported the motion.

Clearly Andrew Watts has no desire or intention to fulfill the objectives of the disarmament policy. Given that, it seems that Greenhill should take the matter into his own hands. As the only executive member from last year still on council, and a vocal supporter of the motion when it was introduced last year, he alone can offer the commitment it would require to give impetus to a previous council's motion.

The timing couldn't be better. Clearly the Liberal government has some reservations about its decision to test the Cruise, thereby escalating the arms race. Further, the U of A is the closest major University campus to the testing site. Why not sponsor a forum on the issue and announce the names of the American and Soviet campuses which we encouraged to pass similar motions? If Greenhill was really daring he might even submit the policy to the Journal as a letter to the editor.

For once the SU should do something with the policy it makes. Greenhill, the time is right - it's up to you.

## Eric Schloss, M.D., F.R.C.P. (C)

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