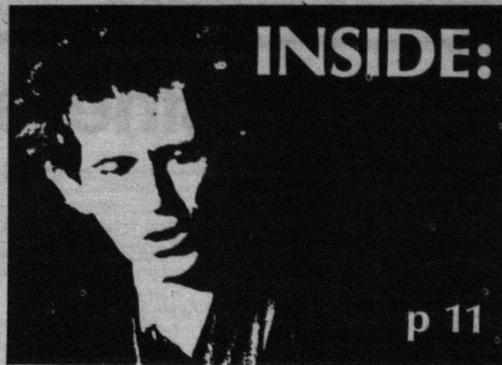


The Gateway

The University of Alberta Students' Newspaper Since 1910



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"Democracy is the recurrent suspicion that more than half of the people are right more than half of the time."—E.B. White

Faculty defends vote Dean and BSA team up to promote student gift

by Lisa Hall

Both the Dean of Business and the Business Students' Association (BSA) are in favor of bringing a student giving program into the faculty, believing the proposed student giving program is well worth the cost.

Dean Jean-Louis Malouin said that even though the faculty of Business receives a lot of private sponsorship for scholarships, "the operational side of the (faculty) is quite poor."

Don Herman, BSA president, agreed that the idea to ask for student giving partly came from funding constraints in the faculty. When he heard about the student giving concept, he talked to the different BSA executives, Business clubs, and BSA council about having a referendum to let students vote

on bring the idea to the U of A.

All parties agreed that asking students to donate was reasonable.

They started working on the referendum with the faculty over the summer to decide where the money could best be spent.

Promotion of the faculty is one area where the money is required. "This is one of the best business schools in Canada," said Malouin, "but it's difficult to maintain that ranking." Promotion of the faculty would involve sending teams to participate in contests and having speakers at the faculty.

Another possible use of the money would be to update the computer labs. "It's difficult when we're not able to teach certain things because the equipment is not there," said Malouin. But Herman noted that it was not pre-determined where the money

would go, and that if the referendum was successful, students would be able to vote — choosing from a wishlist of several items — where the fund could be spent.

Malouin and Herman have been visiting business classes to inform them about the benefits of the program. "We also did a mail-out to all first-year students to tell them about it," said Herman.

Both are stressing that it is important for students to know that the money stays within the faculty, and student representation will make up half the board which will be formed to allocate the money to different projects.

Malouin doesn't believe the program should be viewed as a tuition increase. He hopes to have the contribution included on students' fee assessments for next year's registration, but wants the amount to



Ron Sears

Roger Murray, a second-year Business student, gives the advantages of voting yes to fellow students Lisa Rose and Ross Johnson.

show up separately on the statement, not just added into the other fees. "It's not a fee," said Malouin.

"It's a private donation made by students and returned to the students themselves."

Students fight back with a 'Vote No' campaign

by Lisa Hall

Trevor Lafleche and Jim Romeril are two students who are voting "no" in the upcoming Business referendum — and they would like others to do so as well.

Neither Lafleche nor Romeril are taking issue with the need for more money. But they are questioning whether this is the right way to get that money, and both are particularly concerned about the bias they perceive in the handling of the entire affair.

Lafleche noted that the "yes" campaign is sponsored by people

who organized the referendum (the BSA and the faculty), so they have had a long time to prepare.

Lafleche found out about the referendum last Wednesday. By late last week, he embarked on a "no" campaign at his own expense, though the BSA has since suggested some type of compensation might be available.

"I didn't have time to get a group of people together to campaign," said Lafleche. "I have exams and papers due next week. It's not fair that this has become the BSA's main focus. They have time to put effort into the proposal and have

more resources."

The BSA's newspaper *The Flasher* contained many articles supporting the "vote yes" side, including a front page editorial.

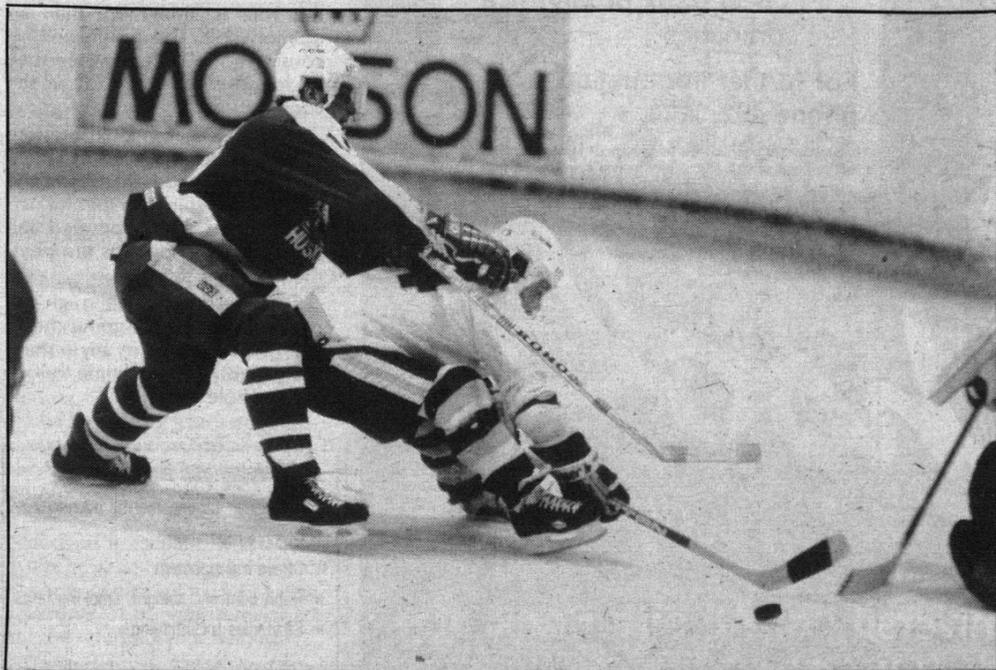
Jim Romeril, who found out about the referendum last Tuesday, felt the "yes" side didn't think they would have any opposition, so they didn't plan for one. Romeril also did not know that BSA would give him money to start a "no" campaign. He went to the BSA office on Friday to express his concerns about the referendum, and Don Herman (BSA president) did not tell him funding was available. "I didn't think

of asking, though," said Romeril, "because I knew the faculty was paying for the 'vote yes' campaign."

Romeril also said that he didn't like some of the proposed ideas for spending the money. "Why should business students pay for computers that the whole university has access to?" He added that Business students use the computers for one class, Computing 357, because they have to, and then don't need to use them again. He also noted that the idea for using the money for student travel usually meant a "select group of students, usually the BSA president, get to go to a conference."

Lafleche noted that BSA has said computers and student travel are only a possibility, "but they came into my class with a pie chart that divided up the money. Fifty-eight per cent was to go to computers. They said they already had a deal with Apple Canada."

Romeril has not been putting up posters, but instead has been talking to students, encouraging them to ask questions about what they are voting on. "The referendum was kept a secret for a long time," said Romeril, "and now the BSA and the faculty are pushing it on us in two weeks."



Jeff Cowley

A mushing Huskie

Golden Bear Center Dave Hingley gets mushed by a Huskie defender in weekend hockey action. Alberta and Saskatchewan split the two-game series.

Klein gets card

by Dawn Lerohl and Pat Kiernan

Realizing they're unwelcome at the Premier's office, Students' Union executives decided instead to present the get-well card to the environment to Environment Minister Ralph Klein.

The card was signed during Environmental Awareness Week by nearly 10,000 students. At the time, the SU promised that the card would be delivered "at an audience with the Premier."

Don Getty repeatedly refused the card, claiming that the matter fell within the jurisdiction of the Environment Minister.

Last week, Wade Deisman, SU V.P., reiterated that the card could only go to the Premier, because "this isn't an issue which is simply confined to the Minister of the Environment." In fact, Deisman suggested that a march to the legislature might be necessary to capture the Premier's attention.

Yet, late last week, Deisman, in conjunction with representatives

from the GSA, U of Calgary, Grant MacEwan, and Mount Royal College, presented the card to Klein. According to Deisman, it's not a defeat, "we see it as a real victory."

"It's a win/win scenario," said Deisman. "We felt it was a good compromise, which recognized time constraints (but) didn't discredit the issue."

Although Getty did not receive the card, he will meet with the SU early in the new year.

Deisman said, "We were negotiating for a meeting to discuss our concerns about the environment. We've been successful. It is possible to have a meeting (with Getty) in the new year."

Meantime, Environment Minister Klein has accepted the card, and considers it to be another sign of increasing public concern about the environment.

"We're more than happy to receive it. We will condense a report and submit it to our cabinet colleagues," said Rod Love, executive assistant to Klein.