

NEWS

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News meetings Fridays at 12:00
see Ann or Bill in Rm 282
SUB or phone 432-5168



'Anti-choice groups intimidate elected representatives', says Campus Pro-Choice

Postcard campaign for abortions

by Ken Hui

Campus Pro-Choice is organizing a 'postcard campaign' to raise parliamentary recognition of a woman's reproductive choice.

"The campaign makes Members of Parliament aware of campus support of the rights of a woman," said Franca Boag, the vice-president of Campus Pro-Choice.

Boag said each postcard is a personal petition. The postcard urges the legalization of abortion and the establishment of a free-standing abortion clinic in Alberta.

Boag wants the campaign to correct M.P.'s misconceptions of the feelings of the majority.

Boag claimed Pro-Choice objectives are to allow people the right to choose. Enjoyment of sex and its moral obligations are individual perceptions. Boag says Pro-Choice's objectives aim at sex education and birth control.

How does Campus Pro-Choice view Birthright, a group that was just founded on campus to offer advice to pregnant girls, but not to advocate abortion?

"Birthright simply denies a woman's right to choose abortion. Birthright is presenting abortion as a case of murder. It forces pregnant women into a worse situation. Campus Pro-Choice defends a woman's right so as to acknowledge the reality. We do not force a decision either way."

One controversial aspect of Pro-Choice is that it sends a large part of its membership funds to support the Dr. Morgentaler Defense Fund.

"Over 70 per cent of Canadians support the right to choose. However, vocal anti-choice groups have managed to intimidate our elected representatives in Parliament against the majority."

Boag claimed the club supports Dr. Morgentaler because he is the most active and visible public figure towards recognition of choice.

Boag said the religiously-affiliated members recognize autonomy in a woman's choice.

Regarding students attitudes toward Pro-Choice, "The bulk favours the status quo. We hope that by informing them about repressive anti-choice methods and the unsupportive social atmosphere, they will realize that changes in favour of legalization of abortion are necessary."

However, Boag insisted that a great many students indeed are

strongly Pro-Choice and have signed a petition to provincial Hospitals Minister, Dave Russell, urging the legalization of abortion and the establishment of a free-standing abortion clinic in Alberta.

Boag said she does not expect executives of SU to give public support of Pro-Choice, which is a controversial issue.

Postcards will be available at the Pro-Choice table in SUB on Fridays starting the first week in December.



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More 'roaches in Carleton

OTTAWA (CUP)—Cockroaches have found a comfortable home in Carleton University's residence commons kitchen despite attempts by Saga food staff to evict them.

Dave Cole, a Carleton student living in residence, said he met his first cockroach while serving himself salad in the residence kitchen.

"I felt this thing climbing up my arm and looked down and it was a cockroach," he said.

Staff at Saga foods who refused to be identified said they've also noticed an increase in the number of cockroaches. One Saga employee said cockroaches have been sighted floating in the heating tubs that keep food warm.

"I remember one time when I was filling a plate and a cockroach

ran right across the counter. I almost died, I was so embarrassed," said the employee.

The cockroaches are frightening other more squeamish staff away from the kitchens at night.

"I walked into the dish room one night to bring in some dirty dishes and I turned on the light and saw four or five scampering across the floor...One girl told me not to go in when it was dark because it was 'creepy' and that's when they breed," said another Saga staffer.

Frank Gillett, Saga food services director attributes the increase in the number of cockroaches to a recent spraying which drove them out of the walls.

One female cockroach can reproduce up to 20,000 times a year

under poor conditions; in ideal conditions, this figure can reach 50,000, said an employee of PCO Ltd., an extermination and fumigation service in Hull.

"They can feed off a little blob of grease that can keep the little guys going to perpetuity," added Gillett.

AG lectures on rights

The Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms has had an immense impact on the Canadian legal system and has forced Canadians to re-think the way governments and individual citizens should interact.

But the Charter also affects foreign individuals living in Canada.

To discuss concerns foreign students may have in regards to the Charter, the Ghanaian Students Association has invited Alberta Attorney-General Neil Crawford to give a public lecture.

Crawford will speak on Human Rights and the Canadian Charter of Rights and will also discuss aspects of human rights with regard to foreign students and immigration problems.

The forum begins at 5 p.m. on Nov. 29 in room 1-09 of the Business Building. Admission is free and tea and coffee will be served.

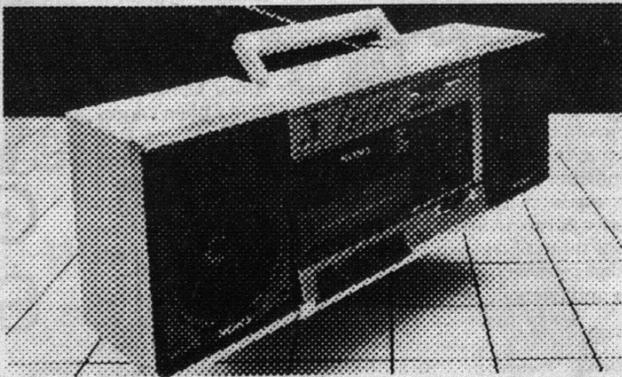
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