

# Post secondary mega-bash

**SASKATOON (CUP)** — The \$2 million extravaganza in Saskatoon was everything students expected it to be.

It was a meeting of minds, but not a changing of minds. It was an attempt to placate students and other groups who were making too much noise about under-funding, restricted access and poor conditions. It was an orgy of wide-eyed theorizing about a nebulous future and a diversion tactic from the real and solvable problems of the present.

But it was, as expected, a good start.

The National Forum on Post Secondary Education in Saskatoon this week brought together for the first time both levels of government as well as over 600 representatives of business, labour, special interest groups, university and college administrators, faculty, and students.

The more than 50 student participants gave varied analyses.

"It was much better than I thought it would be," said Graham Flack, a Dalhousie University student who sat on the Forum's planning committee.

"There was always the danger that certain groups would walk out: like labour, or francophones or students," said Flack. "But we found some central ground, and I think people really listened to each other. The participants did not necessarily agree but they now appreciate each other's positions on the issues."

Others were not so enthusiastic.

"One three-day forum isn't going to change anybody's mind," said Maxine Clarke, co-president of Concordia University's student council. "There's a business person in my group who's been reading about the stock market in the newspaper all afternoon and every once in a while he looks up to say that greater accessibility (to post-secondary education) is 'not economically feasible'. I don't think people were really listening to each other at all. It was more like mental masturbation."

"You also have to take a look at the people who aren't here and the way the whole thing was structured," added Clarke. "I am the only female black student here. There are three other black women here but they are all in the same workshop. There are very few native students here. All these people sitting around talking about how they are going to make the system more accessible to minority groups is great, but that is not how change happens. It doesn't come from the centre, it comes from the periphery. And the periphery aren't here."

"There are so few native people at this forum," said Gina Blondin, a native of the North West Territories and a graduate student at the University of British Columbia. "And there is such a limited amount of time (at the forum), we don't have time to get into any depth."

"It makes me suspicious when the list of delegates to this conference does not indicate who represents whom," said Mitch Dia-

mantopoulos, a sociology student at the University of Regina, who attended the forum as an observer.

Delegates to the Forum were chosen from different sectors but theoretically attended as individuals rather than representatives of defined organizations or interest groups. Conference kits identified participants by name and city only. Name tags gave names only.

"This makes networking virtually impossible, and doesn't allow coalitions to form. This kind of forum would have been the perfect opportunity to form those networks and it hasn't happened," said Diamantopoulos.

Others were frustrated that no resolutions or specific recommendations were expected from the 21 workshops.

"When we are talking about generic problems and general solutions, everyone agrees," said Sheena Weir of the Ontario Federation of Students at a mid-Forum student press conference. "But it is much harder if we are talking about details and solutions. When the pocket-books come out, the social conscience goes out the window."

Frank Smith, coordinator of the National Education Association of Disabled Students, was disappointed with closing plenary speeches which were intended as summaries of the workshop discussions.

"Those speeches could have been written before the forum happened considering how much of the workshop discussions were reflected," Smith said. "They just glossed over everything with no mention of any concrete suggestions that came up. What about the here and now? I didn't expect them to reiterate everything that was said but there has been a filtering of information. There was a lot more consensus and constructive ideas talked about here than they are expressing in their summaries," said Smith.



T-hockey for Rick Hansen fund

## Charity face-off

The hottest table hockey players in the city will gather at the Butterfield November 15 to test their skill.

The event is the second annual Coleco Twist Hockey challenge to raise money for the Rick Hansen Centre on campus.

For a \$10 entry fee, contestants battle for a first prize of \$1000. Second place is worth \$500 and third place \$250.

The qualifying tournament is November 15 beginning at 8:30

a.m. in the University Pavilion. Finals are held at West Edmonton Mall, November 28.

The event is expected to raise \$10 000 for the Rick Hansen Centre, a fitness centre for the disabled. The Centre is located in the Van Vlies Physical Education Building on campus.

Tickets for the tournament are available at BASS. The event is sponsored by the Young Executives Club.

## Classmate blood

**ST. LAMBERT (CUP)** — Blood donations made by Champlain College students two weeks ago may help a fellow classmate recover from a rare form of cancer.

Twenty-three students volunteered when doctors at the Montreal Royal Victoria hospital appealed for type O blood to help the 20-year old patient who is suffering from Hodgkin's disease.

"Her father came to the school to say how touched he was by the

effort and the concern of the students," said Linda Zielinski, one of the students who gave blood.

A student council member alerted a Montreal daily newspaper (The Gazette) to the story.

Champlain College's previous claim to fame in the commercial press came when a student petition asked a local TV station to bring the Flinstones' cartoon series back on air.

## Arts students to vote Tuesday

by Smita Sharma

With the loss of two arts councilors, the Arts Student Association has been forced to call an election for two new people to sit on Students' Council.

Wade Deisman, Leana Shantz, Steven Seiker and Debbie Cook are the four candidates who have submitted nomination forms.

Deisman has worked with the Anti-Cutbacks Team (ACT), while the other three are all first year students.

"As of Monday, the advanced polling was going relatively well," said Laurence Abbott, chief returning officer.

Polls close Tuesday at 3:30 pm. Polling booths are located at the ASA office in room 2-3 Humanities, and in another location as yet undecided.

All undergraduate arts students are eligible to vote in the election to determine their representation within the Students' Union.

| THE KILLAM EXCHANGE SCHOLARSHIPS WITH FRANCE |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
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| NUMBER:                                      | 3                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| CONDITIONS:                                  | Each year the University of Alberta recommends to the Government of France three graduating students for positions as "Assistants" in either secondary or post-secondary French educational institutions. The students participate in this cultural exchange for nine months (October-June). The rate of pay is subsistence level, often lodging and meals can be obtained at a reduced rate. Proficiency in written and oral French is required. The applicant must be a Canadian citizen under 30 years of age and a resident of Alberta for the past five years. |
| DONOR:                                       | The Killam General Endowment Fund and the Government of France.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| APPLY:                                       | Director of Student Awards by December 1.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |

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**TO:** All Health Week Reps and those interested in participating in Health Week '88  
**FROM:** The General Health Week Committee  
**RE:** Meeting Thursday, November 12, 1987 at 5:15 p.m.  
 S.U.B. Room 032

The General Health Week Committee offers all the opportunity to learn organizational skills, meet new people, have lots of fun. The degree of participation is up to you!

A new executive must be elected at this meeting. If not, the club will be dissolved.

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