

At the last minute . . .

The Honest Broker rides again!

The following letter was brought into our offices at 5:30 p.m. yesterday by Gerry Riskin and Rob Spragins. This was after they discovered we were putting out some kind of rush paper on the referendum.

Presumably, the following is a response to the obvious antagonism displayed by the general students' meeting yesterday towards the budget priorities. As such, the following is a good-looking promise of future action. But then, during the election campaign, Mr. Riskin promised that he would never allow the Art Gallery to shut down and that he would never allow a decrease in CKSR's operating budget.

But Mr. Riskin's budget proposals are not what is at issue here. The main issue involved and the point behind this special issue of the Gateway is the arrogance and utter disregard for student choice and intelligence demonstrated by a students' union executive and council that would place such an insulting referendum ballot before the students while saying that they were honestly trying to ascertain student opinion.

Therefore, we feel that the proper course would be to ignore the "choices" offered you by Students' Council on your referendum ballot and write—in the sixth alternative listed in this paper.

We will have plenty of time to determine Mr. Riskin's sincerity next Monday night and next year.

The following proposal should not affect voting in the referendum. The following should have been included in the referendum and wasn't. Students have not been asked to vote on the following and should not take it into consideration when voting in the referendum.

Students:

Despite the fact that today's assembly failed to achieve quorum, there were well over 1,500 students there who indicated in no uncertain way that services were of higher priority than Academic Affairs. Students felt that we were building a bureaucracy at the expense of services. We feel that there is a compelling argument for having a Secretariat in light of the Tenure debate, the U. of A. budget debate and the problem of continuation from one executive to another. These arguments did not find acceptance with concerned students. We had an opinion which we felt had a solid foundation of support and logic behind it but we are not benevolent dictators or bureaucracy builders, we are here to serve you.

We will move the following motion at Monday night's council meeting:

That Art Gallery remain open staffed by volunteers while other sources of finance are investigated and that Photodirectorate as it has in the past provided they show a breakeven budget and that CKSR be given enough money to continue its operation as well as to maintain the background information required for an FM license application and that the Secretariat Proposal be deleted.

(Art Gallery will continue as it has in the past if students vote to increase fees for that purpose and CKSR will go FM if fees are raised for that purpose. There is the possibility of both these occurring.)

Signed,

Gerald A. Riskin (Pres.)
Robert F. Spragins (Exec. V.P.)



Gateway reacts . . . again

This special issue of The Gateway is probably the last Gateway this year (we've said that in the previous two papers) and is (as we have said before) probably the last truly free Gateway.

This special issue is in direct reaction to the referendum in progress today. We decided to publish after a student who had voted in the advance poll came to our office to complain about the wording of the referendum. We had no forewarning of the wording.

When someone at the general meeting asked the executive the wording of the referendum Gerry Riskin replied that he couldn't remember. Immediately after the meeting the advance poll was in progress.

Our problems in publishing this issue were compounded when Riskin and Spragins appeared in our offices and gave us the motion which appears in this paper. They were also compounded by their informing us that a separate sheet will be distributed with the ballots today saying that the fee increase for CKSR-FM is only necessary for one year. This was not distributed with the advance poll ballots but was only written after the CKSR people complained to the executive. We wonder why the people concerned with the referendum were not consulted before the ballots were made up.

We are publishing this issue because we feel we have a responsibility to explain to the students why we and the people involved in the affected organizations think the referendum is a form of blackmail.

By the way, the Gateway staff is publishing their own paper next year and need help. Any inquiries or offers of assistance (either monetary or otherwise) will be answered if sent to: The Harvey G. Thomgirt Publishing Society at 10931 - 84 st. We hope soon to have our own offices either on or near campus and we will then publish the address and phone number.