

A shot in the dark

Well, Mister Gateway, you've got to admit some people sure are tacky. My "machismo" psyche has taken a lot of shit lately, but can you imagine my surprise when those two Bobbies from Fifth Henday had the audacity to question my truthfulness? I am a sixth-generation Handjobb and you don't get that way with your belt buckled.

Now really, if I don't know those two Bobs, nobody does. We exchange the latest fashion tidbits, attend chic events together, and occasionally we swap Dior prints. Of course, I'm a size ten with slender hips, so you can imagine the envious looks I get from those boys! Not that I mean to chip away at their virility, but they should learn not to bite the head that feeds them!

Did you know that everyone on Fifth Henday calls himself "Bob"? Isn't that the sweetest thing? But it's very confusing when the lights are out; you can't tell one asshole from another!

Harvey Handjobb
Fifth Henday
Manliness Committee

Student grieves over election

On Oct. 6, the Students' Union received the following "grievance sheet" from a freshman student on campus which questioned (1) the viability of Students' Union elections and (2) the viability of the Students' Union. The grievance expressed is here reprinted along with the reply from SU vp finance and administration Eileen Gillese because many students may share this same grievance and would like to read an official response to it:

Today is Election Day. We must all cast our votes for all reps in the three faculties. I certainly hope you don't expect a huge turnout at the polls, because few students could cast an intelligent vote based on what has been heard from the candidates around campus.

True, the Gateway did go out of its way to publish an in-depth, concise and informative (ha-ha) propagandized (sic) brief on each candidate. But, as far as I know, or was able to find out, that was it.

There was no opportunity to hear them speak or to meet them. No wonder you had trouble

getting people to win — anyone who takes student politics seriously would doubt the worth of the U of A's Students' Union.

I have only been here a month, but in that time I have seen no evidence of SU actions other than a few notes in the Gateway. (I would also like to take this opportunity to compli-

ment you on the unequalled success of Freshman Introduction Week — great idea, no action).

I certainly hope for the sake of U of A students that a few cast their votes today. There are few here who are capable of an intelligent vote. As for myself, I will not violate my status as a SU

member by making an uneducated choice. Should you choose to inform the general members of candidates' qualifications, and indeed existence, in the future, then I shall look forward to participating in the election.

Kathy Raines
MacKenzie Hall

Vp defends election actions

I would like to respond to the grievance you sent in. Basically it had two parts: complaints about the election and about the Students' Union in general.

First of all, I must agree with you that it is a shame that by-elections in particular show little evidence of campaigning. However, I would like to explain what part the Students' Union does play.

Firstly, it advertises the open vacancies. When interested people fill in nomination forms complete information is given to the candidates suggesting how many posters they can put up, where they can get posters printed, etc. In addition, the Students' Union will pay for all expenses incurred by each individual up to \$50.00. This \$50.00 limit was imposed because we felt that interested candidates would feel the necessity of additional advertising through speeches, visiting classrooms, letters to the Gateway and the like.

It is disappointing that more effort is not displayed by the candidates. I have talked with the Chief Returning Officer and it was decided that in future by-elections there will be public forums at which time each candidate will make a speech.

Two other points should be made. The articles in the Gateway were written by the candidates themselves and the general elections have about 1000% more participation via speeches, classroom visits, debates, advertising etc. (In general elections each candidate is allowed up to \$100 and slates are allowed \$325 again refunded

by the Students' Union).

In more general terms you ask what the Students' Union does. Its chief purpose is still to represent student interests at the University level. This means representation on the Board of Governors, General Faculties Council (GFC), the Senate and the hundreds (literally) of other committees. You could legitimately say "big deal."

It is a big deal. Someone is fighting to get library hours extended, a study week in the first semester, lousy professors out, parking for students, to stop tuition increases, etc. If there was no student government doing these things students would be crying for a voice in the administration. But unfortunately many students reap the benefits of such representation and think that the University did it all by themselves.

It is hard to communicate with over 20,000 students. Therefore, many years ago the Students' Union took the route of offering services to students in the hopes they would see their student government working for them. I have enclosed a handbook (put out by the Students' Union) which may give you a better picture. As well, I enclose calendars of events for the months of September and October and a poster outlining the services we offer.

Perhaps a brief list of what the Students' Union does is in order.

- Gateway twice weekly (12 issues to date)
- handbook
- telephone directory with staff and student phone numbers

-blotter

-students' Union Building - mortgage alone costs us \$245,000 per year plus cleaning, lighting, etc. is another \$340,000 annually. But in this building we offer students club space, lockers, rooms for meetings, a music listening centre (free), an art gallery, arts and crafts store, arts and crafts lessons (eg. weaving, macrame, etc), a radio station, games area, bowling alley, curling rink, newspaper, T.V. lounge, pub, etc.

- Theatre (ballet, violinists, soprano, stage band, CBC production "On Stage," duo pianists)

- cinema (13 different shows so far this year)

- in HUB the Students' Union offers a record store, restaurant, pub, box office and games area. These are primarily for convenience as it is felt that students should be able to get bus passes, beer etc. without having to leave campus.

- socials (every Saturday night in Dinwoodie)

- forums, films, speakers (posters everywhere advertising these things. Average about 3 times a week)

- Housing Registry

- grants to clubs and faculty associations.

I hope that this information will be of some use to you.

In closing I would urge you to drop in to see me any time at Room 259, second floor, SUB. It is encouraging to see your interest (even if that does sound clichéd).

Eileen Gillese
Vice President
Finance & Administration

Minister two-steps through forum

Generally, my foremost feeling for students is one of pity. That general feeling became very specific last Tuesday when I, one of the pitiable, went to SUB Theatre to listen to Dr. Bert Hohol "talk" about "advanced" education.

Hohol barely spoke. Many words were uttered by him, but it could hardly be called speaking. Our barely-literate minister (his doctorate in Educational Administration) is a Master at long-winded evasion. If he can dance as well as he can circumlocute; he'll make somebody a good husband some day.

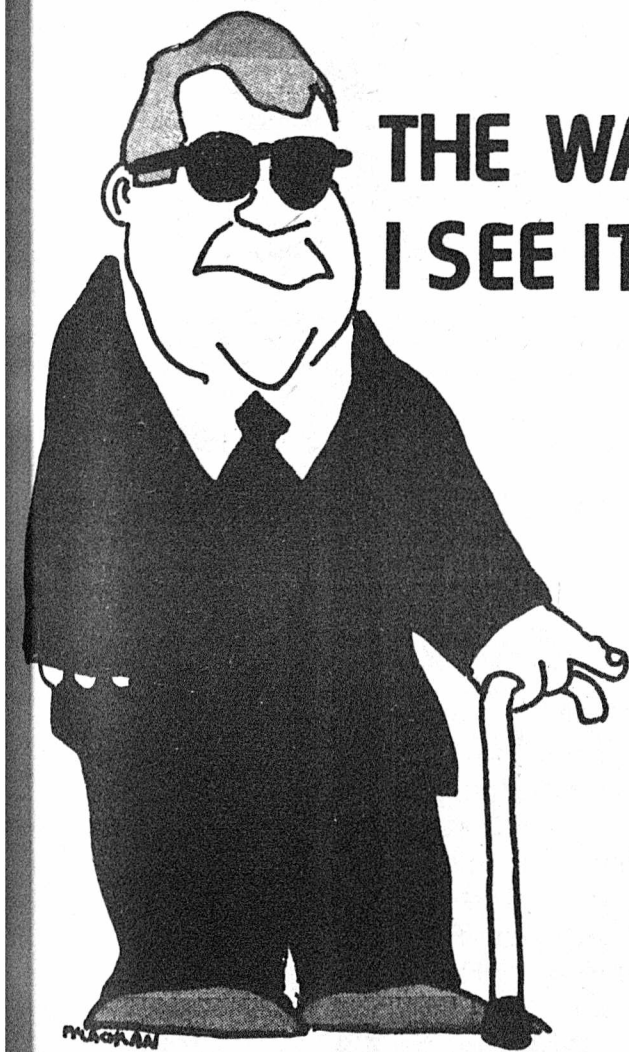
Hohol side-stepped questions on foreign student fee

differentials, dodged the 25 per cent U of A tuition increase, ducked faculty quota inquiries, and just plain lied about alleged public support for his proposals.

So, poor students, I'm sorry for us. I'm sorry if we went to classes instead of taking in the indigestible Bert Hohol. We really missed something. I'm sorry if we skipped classes to see him, because much more food for thought would have been found in the former, and that more easily swallowed. I'm sorry that we have a stutter-mouth minister looking after our interests in government.

B. Campbell
Economics

Frank Mutton



THE WAY
I SEE IT

I have some good news, and some bad news. First, the good news — I've been offered a chance to co-host a new TV show on ITV! Now the bad news — I'll only be able to manage one column a week from now on. (O'Callaghan keeps kissing the City Editor, and telling me he's sorry to see me go, at last.)

So this'll be my last Thursday column, unless of course the show bombs and I get the boot. Mind you, that's not very likely, my friend — this new venture is guaranteed to bring me fame and fortune... Would you believe fan mail from Oyen and \$200. a week?

The series is based on the smash movie *The Omen*, and stars the great Alex Moir of CBC fame as a dashing, debonair city alderman. He works his way up the political ladder until he becomes mayor, but along the way his son begins acting stranger and stranger.

The mayor's possessed son is played by Bryan Hall, who shows his acting talent in the very first episode. The day care centre in Mill Woods that the boy attends mysteriously burns itself to the ground — an obvious suicide, but why? When he is transferred to a playschool in a queer old house in North Garneau, Bryan falls under the mysterious power of an Ed Psych major from the University.

As the show goes on, you'll see Bryan change from a mild-mannered kid into a slobbering, half-crazed demon. He practises his lines, during CFL games.

My part in the series is relatively small, but vitally important — I play the crusading newspaper reporter who tries desperately to convince the mayor that his son has a driving ambition to be Utilities Commissioner. Unfortunately I kick the bucket when a freak gust of wind in the newsroom knocks a \$350. IBM Selectric typewriter onto my foot and sends me into a catatonic state. Just as I'm recovering at the Misericordia, one of Bryan's henchmen, dresses me up like an old lady and sticks me in the middle of Jasper during rush hour. I don't stand a chance.

The series begins production as soon as a woman to play the mayor's wife is found. David Leadbeater was offered the part but "didn't have a thing to wear." The part will probably go to Barbara Kelly, the station manager's wife and an o.k. actress.

Peter Lougheed, who wants everyone to know that he's really not a meglomaniac, phoned to tell me about the latest withdrawals, from the Heritage Trust Fund.

These are all necessary for the well being of Albertans, and will help to make this province a better place for all, so pay attention.

\$435,000 for the Lou Hyndman Backyard Pool and Western Cedar Patio Fund ... \$120,000 to the Grant Notley Memorial Fund, to be established after Mr. Notley's mysterious and untimely

death last week ... \$45,000 to Gentlemen's Adventure Massage for services and whipped cream rendered ... and finally \$1,875,000 for Julian Koziak's brain transplant.

All these expenditures were made with the almost unanimous support of the legislature, the lone dissenting vote being cast by Gordon Taylor, Independent for Drumheller. I guess they had trouble finding his grandchildren, since he was the only Opposition member not out trying to round up ransom money.

You know, the University has a very poor subscription policy in its libraries — they have reams and reams of useless periodicals, and yet fail to subscribe to some of the most important magazines. Agriculture students are unable to find any copies of the Northern Saskatchewan Rapeseed and Used Tractor Parts Journal. Engineering students can't get their paws on Teen Beat, and I can't locate Calling All Girls. If things get any worse I'll have to go back to reading the raunch at Mike's.

FOR THE RECORD Joe Clark phoned from Ottawa yesterday to tell me he's going to sue Julius Schmid Co for some kind of corporate rip. Seems Clark didn't want Catherine Janearound until he's in office and swore he's going to "stick it to Mau(unintelligible) ... until I'm elected." Joe said he's Excited by the prospects (whatever that's supposed to mean).