

SU Campaign Trail '84: The few, the proud

There are twelve candidates vying for six positions in the Students' Union (SU) election to be held this Friday, February 10. It's Hodgins vs. Watts in the race for SU President. Students will be given a YES/NO choice in the uncontested VP Finance and VP External positions. Three candidates are running for VP Academic and a different trio want your vote in the quest to become a Board of Governors representative. In an interesting match-up, it's Stamp vs. Koch in the race for VP Internal. Special SU election coverage continues inside.

gateway

Tuesday, February 7, 1984

What do you call a man with no arms and no legs who likes to waterski?

Skip.



Have you paid your phone bill? See details on page 10.

Academic lay-offs

by Ken Lenz

The University of Alberta will definitely be forced to cut both academic and non-academic staff this year and may further restrict enrollment because of an accumulated deficit of \$3.5 million.

The Board of Governors (B of G) decided last Friday the University's \$200 million base budget had to be cut by \$5.5 million this year in order to balance the budget.

"This cut will mean a three per cent cut in Faculty budgets, with the exception of Arts and Science, which will be cut by 1.5 per cent. The library base reduction will be two per cent. The support units will be required to make base reductions of four per cent," says VP Finance Lorne Leitch.

"I think it is absolutely disastrous. The government is saying they can't afford to give an education to those who are qualified and interested," says University President Myer Horowitz.

Leitch says the deficit for next year will be even larger: "It would appear the most likely scenario would result in a shortfall in the range of \$5 million to \$8 million."

Last November, President Horowitz imposed a hiring freeze on all staff positions. At that time, the projected deficit was only 1.9 million, not 3.5 million.

"One of the reasons I imposed the hiring freeze is that I didn't want to lay off anybody, but

rather, I wanted to eliminate the positions already left vacant," says Horowitz.

Horowitz is sure now that some presently filled positions will have to be eliminated.

He says further restriction of enrollment will have to be looked at "very seriously."

Last year, the B of G raised the minimum entrance requirement from 60 to 65 per cent, effective this September. Nevertheless, enrollment increased over nine per cent in the past year with no corresponding increase in funding.

President Horowitz listed two reasons for the difference of 1.6 million in the projected deficit since November of last year.

"The first and least important deals with investment. The amount of money we had to invest has been decreasing, and the interest rates have come down faster than we expected," he says.

Horowitz adds, "in an institution of this size you allocate expenditures greater than the anticipated income." The president explained that usually there is staff resigning and positions left vacant for long periods of time. This did not happen this year, probably due to the economic situation.

And nobody in the University Administration is optimistic about the future.

Says the Manager of the Non-Academic Staff Association, George Walker, "I think the only way the University could influence this Provincial Government is to restrict enrollment and then let the MLA's receive the complaints from the parents of the kids who were denied admission."

VP Academic George Baldwin also thinks the situation will get worse and urges the members of the B of G to provide cohesive support to the upcoming recommendations of the Planning groups, which will likely be making drastic cutbacks.

"There will be decisions made that will make Windsor Park look like Women's Hockey," he says.

Baldwin is referring to the University's purchase of six houses in the neighbouring community of Windsor Park. The University first justified the purchase as an investment, then as much-needed residences for visiting professors

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Med Show in - Building Code out

by Gilbert Bouchard

The Med Show and Engineers' Skit Night will probably be held in SUB Theatre next year even though they may contravene the SU Building Code.

"The 1985 Med Show contract has already been signed, and the Med Show will go on in SUB next year unless the Building Services Board (BSB) or Students' Council decides to cancel the contract, but I can't see that happening," said present VP Internal, and BSB Chair Peter Block.

"If the BSB were to cancel the contract I would take the issue myself to Students' Council, and I see quite the fight in Council over it," said Block.

Block had earlier stated that pretty much everything that the Med Show will do will violate the Building Code, but that "I've had no official complaints over the Med Show." Block did not attend this year's Med Show (held in SUB theatre over the last weekend) so could not comment on whether or

not the show did violate the Building Code.

But the Building Code itself may not fare as well next year, as both VP Internal candidates Dave Koch (Watts' Slate) and Gord Stamp (Huebl-Stamp Coalition) are in favour of revamping the code.

The SU Building Code is to prevent the SU's facilities from being used as a forum for sexist, racist or otherwise objectionable material. The Code as it stands now allows the VP Internal to decide if materials or productions within the SU Building are objectionable. The VP's decision can be appealed to the Building Services Board, the SU Executive, and finally to the Students' Council.

Gord Stamp objects to the present Code, calling it too "vague", saying that it can "be interpreted 8000 different ways. It's completely up to the discretion of the VP Internal. What could be allowed one year could not be allowed the next, depending on

who the VP Internal is," said Stamp.

Stamp advocates that the Code remain, but apply only to "things in the general walking area of SUB. We should enforce a limit on things that we feel are tasteless and obscene to the general public. But the theatre should be allowed to do what it wants to within the legal limits," said Stamp. "The Code will remain, but the theatre won't come under the Building Code."

Block has difficulties with Stamp's proposal. "Why should the theatre be exempt? After all, it's paid for and run with students' fees like the rest of the building," said Block.

Dave Koch's proposal was less definitive than Stamp's.

While Koch feels that the SU should "strike a new policy," Koch's recommendation would be to as the Engineers. Medical Students and any other concerned students to send reps to a meeting or group of meetings to come out

with a new building policy. "It won't be perfect," says Koch, "but a policy that everybody can live with."

Block on the other hand feels that problems will arise no matter what system is in effect. "You're going to have complaints if you have or don't have a policy. When Miss Nude Alberta, and Mr. Nude Entertainer were held in SUB a few years back, there was no Code, but complaints were filed. The President of the University alone received over 150 letters," said Block.

"Overall the present Code works. Earlier this year, when the Code was invoked over a controversial Campus Right To Life pamphlet, there was action taken after a formal written complaint was laid. The group was unhappy with the action taken, and subsequently appealed the decision to the BSB as the Code allows. The BSB upheld the Executive's decision. The group was then in-

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