

More ACT! II

The Anti-Cutbacks Team! (ACT!) is a committee established by Students' Council to aid the Students' Union in addressing issues affecting post-secondary education. ACT! is volunteer based and it requires concerned students to get involved in order to be successful. While there have been some conflicts between members of the ACT! executive (Gateway, 24 September), most of these have been resolved. It is essential that the concerned parties work together in order to facilitate ACT!'s mandate.

This is a difficult time for the University of Alberta. We are faced with record enrolment and decreased funding. If you are concerned about the quality of your education, and are willing to commit a small amount of time to researching the effects of cutbacks, please contact the ACT! chairman, Andrew Fredericks, Room 272, Students' Union Building or phone 432-2872.

Paul LaGrange  
Vice-President External Affairs

More ACT! III

What the hell is going on at this University? Your article "ACT honchos scrap" was very reflective of the problems volunteers for ACT "a lot of talk and very little action."

It seems the action of many of the members of ACT is to complain and whine about the lack of work by one individual, Mr. Fredericks. The article suggests that it is Mr. Fredericks who is solely responsible; where is the rest of the ACT executive? What have they done? Where is the research and the information of educational cutbacks?

Stop sacking the quarterback, and get your ACT together!

Stephen Lynch

Liberals

When "New Democrats Speak", I wonder if any rational person listens? The N.D.s are just a left-wing version of the P.C.s.

The P.C.s are committed to Canada's military alliances by over-spending on the armed forces, and the N.D.s are committed to destroy Canada's external defence relationship by withdrawing from the Western alliance and thus our security.

The P.C.s emphasize free-enterprise economy and scab labour while the N.D.s want eventual total nationalization and 40 hrs/wk strikes.

The P.C.s emphasized getting Quebec into the constitutional family, and God knows where the N.D.s stand!

If the N.D.s become the governing party, they will cause more "economic and political destabilization" just like the Conservatives!

Thank God FOR LIBERALS!

Dave Yadallee

Bill C-54 support

Regarding Dragos Ruiu's "Commentary" on Bill C-54 (Gateway, Oct. 1). Dragos:

Doesn't "sexual repression" mean that a person is holding in, with an unhealthy motivation, his sexuality? The onus then lies with the individual to isolate and discard his problem: does the discomfort come from the holding in, from the unhealthy motivation, or from the fact of his sexuality?

The discomfort can not come from his sexuality, which is the instinct of living creatures to procreate; to make more of what is good, i.e., themselves.

Nor can the fact of "holding in" sexuality be a problem, because sexuality is a potential outlet for vital energy. The sexual act consumes vital energy, which is why religions have regulated sex. Vital energy "held in",

(not expended in sex) takes other creative manifestations.

So the problem of "sexual repression" must lie in an unhealthy motivation, such as fear or shame, for not expressing sexuality. Repression, then, occurs within the individual's mind, and there only.

Do we really have anything to fear then in Bill C-54?

"Sculptures or paintings of the human body in art galleries" would not be "restricted", because they have "artistic merit... or (are) educational." The market place's own barometer of good taste will be the judge, within limits. The limits are those of consensus within society. What else can you say?

"School counsellors...asked about teen sexuality" would only be in "hot water" if they "incite, promote, encourage, or advocate" sexual activity, not if they "give information about sex." The law is recognizing that although teenagers can have sex, counsellors are not doing them a favour by advising them to do so.

Social laws do not have a 2 + 2 = 4 sort of simplicity. Social laws work on a basis of probability. Bill C-54 will be a good law if the probability of it short-circuiting destructive material is greater than the probability of it short-circuiting constructive material.

Michael Cenkner

Tourney coverage

In response to the coverage of this year's Golden Bear Invitational hockey tournament by Randal Smathers (Gateway, Sept. 29), I would like to clear up some points made by Smathers.

To begin with, the name of the tournament is not 'The Molson Invitational' but 'The Golden Bear-Molson's Invitational'. If the tournament name is to be shortened for convenience, it should be referred to as 'The Golden Bear Invitational'.

Point number two — Guy Paradis was chosen the Bears' MVP for the final game because he played a standout game on defense with sufficient offensive contributions. Included in this performance were the points listed by Smathers (i.e. two "monster hits") but by only mentioning such things as giving out hits to earn MVP honours, Smathers does not do justice to Guy's performance in the game.

The next point deals with the confusion in the press box. Perhaps if Smathers had been paying better attention, he would have learned that the confusion had nothing to do with who would win the tournament — it was known before the game started that all the Bears needed was a tie to successfully defend their title. There was some confusion, however, in regard to the prospect of a tie game after sixty minutes. Under Canada West rules, overtime would have been played. Because the tournament is exhibition action, it was not known if full Canada West rules were being followed. As such, we were not sure if there would be any further action after sixty minutes of regulation play if the game had been tied. Furthermore, Mark Spector's comments (made in passing) were not the last words on who would win the tournament as (mentioned previously) we already knew the situation regarding this.

Still on the goings on in the press box, I hope Smathers did not consider the process of choosing the All Star team and Tournament MVP as one of confusion as, again, everything was essentially settled (and without any problems) before the game concluded. The only question mark of any kind had to do with the Tournament MVP as this traditionally goes to a player on the winning team. Because of this, we had to wait until all hope was lost (for the Bears) before we could

officially name the Tournament MVP and the last All Star team position.

The fifth point to this long letter has to do with the write-up of the Lethbridge-Saskatchewan game. According to Smathers, Lethbridge won on the strength of their goal-tending as David Clearwater stopped 39 of 41 shots (whereas Lethbridge only had 22 shots of their own). I suggest that Smathers check the official score sheets again. In actuality, it was Lethbridge that had 41 shots on the Saskatchewan goal and Saskatchewan replying with only 22 of their own. Perhaps if Smathers had bothered to show up for the game he would have picked up on this by witnessing the clear domination Lethbridge had over the Huskies.

I suggest that, in the future, if Smathers is to do a responsible job of reporting the sports, he should be more attentive to detail and actually show up for some games (i.e. you can't do a tournament notebook by just showing up for the final game).

Byron King

*Editor's Note: On the teams' roster, provided by the Department of Athletics, the title of the tournament is the University of Alberta Molson Invitational Hockey Tournament.*

*On the official Canada West University Athletic Association Hockey Summary Sheet for the Lethbridge-Saskatchewan game, the shots on goal are listed as follows: David Clearwater, Leth., W, 41 Shots Agst., 39 Saves; Dean Owen, Sask., L, 22 Shots Agst., 16 Saves.*

Democracy

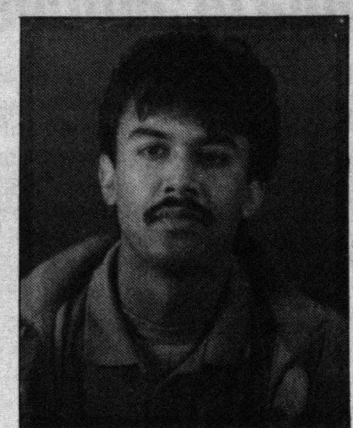
When Dragos Ruiu states that religion has no place IN government he is absolutely correct. However when he states that religion has no rights in attempting to influence government he has acquired a bad case of naivete or maybe he has been reading too many FREE press reports from NICARAGUA.

RELIGION maintains the same rights as any INTEREST GROUP in ATTEMPTING to influence government and legislation. Democracy gives its citizens the right of free speech and the right to lobby on their behalf. GAYS, FEMINISTS, LABOR GROUPS, PORNOGRAPHY SUPPORTERS, ANTI EDUCATION GROUPS, ETC. HAVE THIS RIGHT. Should religion not have the same right?

The matter of the Pope speaking out also seems to disturb Mr. Ruiu. When the Pope speaks on strictly religious matters he has always made it clear that his teachings are directed to Catholics whether they listen to him or not. That is his right and the right of Catholics. When the Pope speaks on NATIVE OR HUMAN RIGHTS HE IS SPEAKING AS THE SPIRITUAL HEAD of some 750,000 million people many of whom are subject to horrendous abuse of their human rights. That is also his right. When the Pope chastises governments on other matters he is speaking as a HEAD OF STATE. That is also his right.

When Mr. Ruiu speaks of the Republic of Ireland he should keep in mind that this is also a democratic country where each citizen has a vote and the CHURCH does not have a vote. Israel is also a democracy as is the USA where dissent and interest groups are permitted. When Mr. Ruiu speaks of being "OPPRESSED" OR "BRAINWASHED" he should take a look around and appreciate the fact that freedom of speech is permitted in this country. He should also consider that he would not have the same editorial freedom if he was writing for LA PRENZA. WAKE UP COMRADE DRAGOS THIS IS A DEMOCRACY.

E. Vickers



Between the lines

The recent Soviet-American agreement on eliminating intermediate-range nuclear missiles is a long-awaited step towards sanity.

Power is the central issue of the arms race. Maintaining power is the main motivation of both the U.S.S.R. and the U.S.A. The arms race provides a balance of power: the steadily increasing arsenal of the one keeping in check the similarly growing weaponry of the other. The most common rationale for the arms race is of maintaining a peaceful status quo, actually deterring war through the build-up of nuclear arms.

There is no doubt that avoiding war is in the best interests of maintaining power. Wars are extremely costly endeavours, and rarely do great nations come out of them whole. Napoleon's empire crumbled quickly as he sought to expand its borders. Germany under Hitler went from an economic giant in 1939 to a deeply indebted nation at the conclusion of the war in 1945. Britain, on the other hand, provides an example of Imperial Wisdom. Her Empire, the largest the world has ever known, lasted as long as it did through the careful avoidance of conflict wherever possible.

However, Britain was eventually drawn into war and came away a greatly weakened nation. Unfortunately the desire for power and the inevitability of war seem to be faithfully linked. But whereas in the past an inevitable war meant the fall of individual nations, now the eventual outcome is absurd: "A winner take nothing philosophy which mocks the original intentions of the main protagonists."

Nuclear Disarmament is a pure appeal to reason. It hopes to bring future conflict out of the realms of the absurd and into the more understandable area of barbarism.

Gary Dhillon

Write  
for the  
Gateway

The Disenchanted Forest

