

# Vote today

For poll times and locations  
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## Su election forum animated and loud

# Skip Slate big favorite

by Susan Sutton

A warm welcome of elastic bands, paper airplanes and creative heckling greeted the twenty-nine candidates vying for positions in next year's students' union in yesterday's all-candidates forum.

Five slates are running, as well as one independent for VP Academic. Of the five, the super-hip-Skip Slate was the overwhelming crowd favorite.

The first speaker was presidential candidate Murray Ballas. He stressed that council is polarized at present, and he proposed an evaluation of the present council.

Ballas said he is proud of being "new to the game," and that "real change comes when the people change" the government.

Don Millar, recovering admirably from an elastic band shot between the eyes, said the U of A is underfunded and that he will work to increase funding.

He pointed out that his slate has specific ideas and a detailed platform.

Millar concluded by saying that "name-calling will not get students interested in the Students' Union, and neither will a hamburger stand in the basement."

The third presidential candidate, Mike Nickel, called the U of A the best-funded University in Canada.

He stated his intention to rebuild the credibility of the Students' Union and to represent the students to the administration more effectively.

He introduced the idea of a medical and dental insurance plan to cries of "Socialist" from the restless crowd.

Peter Seseke of the Seseke crowd emphasized that experience and good looks have little to do with competence.

He stated his intention to lower SU fees and salaries, increase student representation on campus, and provide copier service for five cents.

He promised "ideas and guaranteed accountability," and said, "if by November first my promises are not kept and 1,250 students ask for my resignation, I will."

Those curious about the origins of the Skip Slate were enlightened as well.

Said presidential candidate Skip, "Biff and I were in a bar and I said 'Wanna get a slate?' Biff lifted his head off the table and said, 'What the fuck.'"

Calling his slate "slightly right of fascism," they favor higher tuition, lower government funding, general increase in student apathy, and the levelling of Lister Hall for a parking lot.

"Lister Hall residents will be donated to the faculty of Medicine."

Next up were the VP Academic candidates. The two main issues addressed were the writing competence exams and teaching evaluations.

Caroline Nevin, of the Progressive Alternative, proposed taking action against incidental fees, as well as preparing high school students for the competency exams with tutorials from grad students

"Students are unprepared for these exams," she said.

Independent Martin Schug suggested the slates be broken up (by the voters), in order to provide a forum for all views.

Earl Smith of the Seseke Slate suggested bookstore hours be increased, and that a computerized second-hand book exchange be introduced.

He concluded by saying, "The

SU is for you, not the hacks."

Of the speakers for VP Finance and Administration, Chip of the Skip Slate was the most eclectic.

He advocated "education for the rich, by the rich," and the raising of tuition fees to help the Canadian economy.

He suggested the aid of the Triple Five corporation be enlisted to build a dome over the university.

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After Friday the SU executive will be lame duck...

...not just lame.

Gilbert Bouchard

# The Gateway

Thursday, February 7, 1985

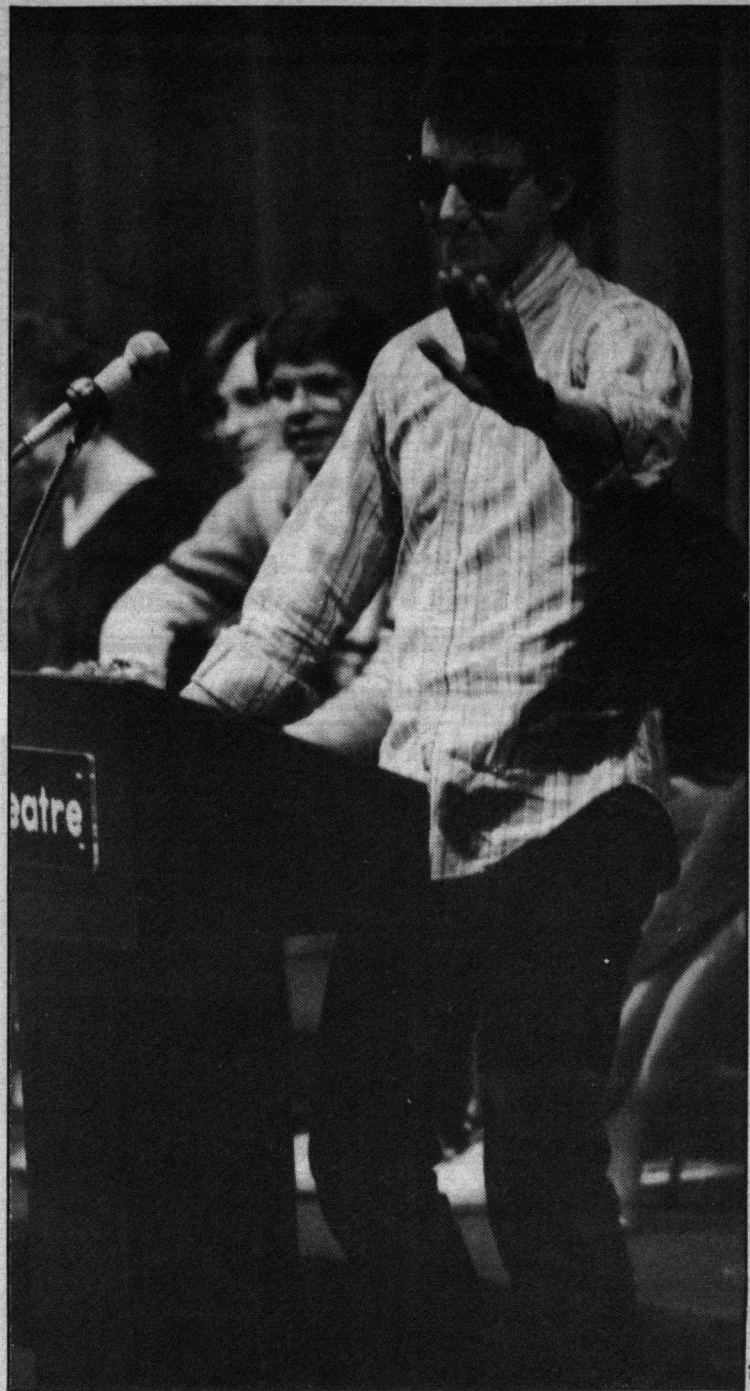


Photo Tim Kubash

The most relevant moment at the all-candidates forum in SUB yesterday came when an unsuspecting questioner asked Skip of the Skip Slate to define what a "schlep" was. "You ever looked in the mirror, buddy," said Skip.

## CFS, Building Policy forum interests only campaign workers

# Referenda forces clash at forum

by Neal Watson

Empty seats and very few students greeted the speakers of the various yes and no forces in Tuesday's SU referenda forum in SUB.

Only about 70 people, many of them actively involved in the referenda campaign, turned out to hear speakers argue and heckle each other about the fate of the Canadian Federation of Students (CFS) at the U of A and the SU Building Policy.

Students will be voting on whether to continue membership in CFS and on scrapping the Building Policy in today and tomorrow's SU election.

The present Building Policy prohibits the display of sexist, racist, or "otherwise offensive material" in the Students' Union building. The present enforcement formula leaves the decision up to the VP Internal and the Building Services Board. The No-campaigners seek to throw out the policy and replace it with existing federal and provincial statutes.

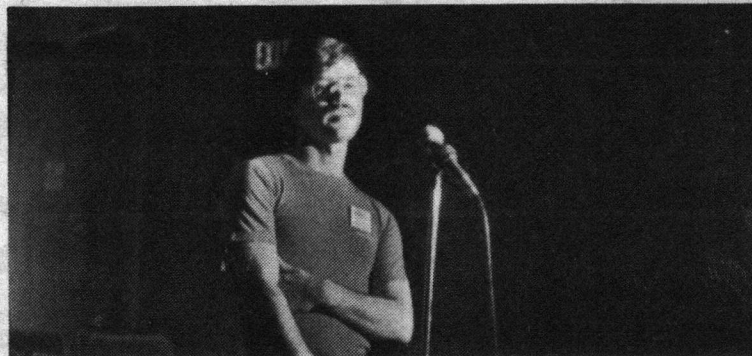
Siobhan Avery, the spokesperson for the Yes-Building Policy committee, told the crowd that the yes-side was not asking for arbitrary censorship, but for women's and minorities' rights.

"We are most often affected by sexist and racist material," she said. "We can't rely on laws that are not enforced. The restriction of sexist and racist material is our right."

Avery said the Building Policy represented the kind of freedom that civil libertarians dream of.

Speaking for the No-side, Richard Stedman emphasized that people have the right to express themselves any way they feel.

Also speaking for the No-side was a woman identified as Labelle



VP Internal Gord Stamp was not alone at the Referenda forum in SUB yesterday, but just about.

Photo Martin Schug.

who quoted from the charter of fundamental rights and freedoms, saying people have various entrenched liberties.

"Anyone has the right to pursue activities or pastimes as long as they are within the law," she said.

Stedman called the Building Policy "Ridiculous and stupid" and said, "we all know what members of the opposite sex look like."

"I believe that the number 69 is sexist and all textbooks with the number 69 should be removed from campus."

The two speakers for CFS argued the relative merits and non-merits of the national lobby organization founded three years ago.

Yes-CFS spokesperson David Blatt said that after only three years, CFS has established credibility and respect.

Blatt said that important education issues can only be worked on at the national level.

"Without CFS, Flora Macdonal (federal employment minister) won't invite the new SU president to hear concerns," he said. "The U of A is the largest university in CFS, let's take advantage of the influ-

ence that gives us."

Ken Bosman, the No-CFS spo-

kesperson, attacked the credibility of CFS because he said less than half of the campuses in Canada have voted to join CFS. He also pointed to the large institutions like the U of T and UBC that have voted against CFS.

"What credibility does that give CFS when lobbying in Ottawa," asked Bosman.

Bosman said CFS' international policies, like pulling out of NATO and NORAD, were divisive and responsible for destroying the credibility of the organization.

"CFS has custom-made policies to promote disunity, it is a vehicle for division," he said. "Students find the policies offensive."

# Floyd's fine overturned

by Kent Cochrane

The Discipline, Interpretation, and Enforcement (DIE) Board has overturned the \$60 fine assessed against SU President Floyd Hodgins by Chief Returning Officer Michael Brings.

Brings had ruled that a column written by Hodgins in the Jan. 30 issue of the *Grind* was campaign material and had to be paid for.

Hodgins is campaigning for the position of Board of Governors Representative in the SU elections.

Brings' decision declared that many of Hodgins' arguments and "stated beliefs (in the column) have been used and are being used by him in his campaign."

However, DIE Board ruled that because Hodgins did not specifically mention his candidacy in the *Grind* article, it could not be construed as campaign material.

The new decision also declared that the content of the column was not substantially different from other columns Hodgins had written in the *Grind*.

Hodgins has written a regular column in the *Grind* entitled "Floyd Speaks," since last December.

In his appeal, Hodgins said that his column in the *Grind* had not given him any unfair advantage over the other candidates.

"Any person has the opportunity to write articles in the *Grind*," said Hodgins.

Hodgins also based part of his appeal on the Canadian Charter of Rights.

"The ruling violate (my) freedom of religion (and) expression," wrote Hodgins in his letter to DIE Board, "if one accepts the ruling in (sic) that I was expressing my beliefs."