

SECOND WIND

"As a matter of fact, Students' Council actually does serve an important purpose". I found myself saying this to someone about two weeks ago, after a marathon Council session.

This led me to wonder why Students' Council needed justifying in the first place. After all, it is in effect the Board of Directors of a five million dollar corporation; and its decisions affect (in one way or another) the lives of most of the inhabitants of this 20,000-person city within a city.

Nonetheless, there seems to be some inefficiency in this organization. Decisions can take months to go from concept to

implementation. There is a lot of rather pointless debate in Council. This even seems to be longest and most heated in inverse proportion to the importance of the issue discussed. People see this and ask themselves "Why?"

"Why", people want to know, "does the Students' Council take so long to get its work done? Why do personal feelings enter debates with such vehemence and frequency?"

Part of the reason is that it takes a rather odd combination of ambition and concern to run for Council. Without either of these qualities, fewer people would run than the few who do now.

But it is just these qualities that make the debate so tedious and spiteful. People with concern will sometimes blow minor issues all out of proportion, and people with ambition will defend themselves even when wrong or imagine personal slights where there are none.

Don't get me wrong — this is not an argument for political disenchantment. I want you to take more of an interest in the process of government. If you think councillors are bozos, why aren't you running?

Above all, it is crucial that you make your opinion on political issues known. We have in this election three "slates" of distinctly different opinions. Vote for the

one which most closely resembles yours. Don't allow your decision to descend to the level of the campaign (i.e. don't choose the least vilified personality from among the candidates), make a sensible choice based on the issues and proposals put forward by the candidates in their literature.

But for God's sake, whatever you do, vote tomorrow. Giving up the democratic right to vote is the first step toward giving up the franchise. In other words, if you don't vote, other people will be making the choices for you.

Influence government in the most direct way anyone can — vote!

Dave Cox

Soviet government bent on establishing world domination

Amid the flurry of letters and articles concerning nuclear weapons, there is one crucial fact that has been missed by most of the correspondents.

Bruce Connell hints at it in his letter of March 18: "It becomes increasingly difficult to believe that they (I presume he means the Russians) want another war."

Well, they probably don't. The point is that they have no choice in the matter. There are no opposition parties in the Kremlin or editorials in *Pravda* which advocate disarmament. The present Soviet government is bent on world domination.

Added to this is the fact that military service is compulsory in the Soviet Union, and the Soviet press does not lend aid and comfort to draft dodgers, as it does in the U.S.

This brings me to another point. The Soviet Union keeps its satellites under a very tight rein (e.g. Hungary 1956, Czechoslovakia 1968; Portugal was saved from being sucked into the Soviet orbit only by its geographical position, Afghanistan 1979, Poland 1981), whereas NATO tolerates a fairly wide range of dissent within its ranks. Would a Warsaw Pact country be allowed by the Soviet

Union to sign a friendship protocol with the U.S. or to tolerate the existence of a large, pro-Western party in its parliament?

Therefore the Soviet Union can threaten to install nuclear weapons anywhere in their empire without fear of local opposition, as has happened in Cuba. Will we be seeing anti-nuclear demonstrations in Havana?

The U.S. and Western European countries usually have to contend with the opposition of a small, but vociferous minority (a recent poll showed that more than 80 per cent of those questioned in the U.S. and more than 70 per cent of those questioned in Britain and West Germany would be prepared to go to war to stop Soviet expansion) whenever they try to update their military capabilities.

They also have to put up with an unending stream of slings and arrows from liberal intellectuals in the press, calling for unilateral disarmament.

And this is the main reason why NATO should maintain, and increase its, technological superiority over the Soviet Union - it is the only real advantage which it possesses. Fortunately this should not be too difficult, as

it has been shown (Sutton, *Western Technology and Soviet Economic Development*) that totalitarian states such as the Soviet Union are stagnant and uninventive, and need to rely on countries such as the U.S., West Germany, and Britain for advanced equipment.

Yours,
Robert Orr
Grad Studies

Angry HUB resident blasts director of housing

Dear Editor,

A letter of warning to present and future HUB residents. Present tenants have received a newsletter with some rather unpleasant changes detailed in it. The worst concerns the choosing of room-mates.

This idea was aired by Housing and Food services last year, and shot down in flames by the then HUB tenants association. Like the Phoenix, it arises again. If you rent an apartment, it means that you will have to choose your room-mates from a short list of ten supplied by HUB. You can't say you want your wife or buddy; you can specify your roomie's age, sex and faculty, but not their identity. So whether or not you have a co-tenant(s) lined up, HUB

may not let you have them. Isn't this sweet?

This means sharing your apartment with a stranger if you're unlucky. Even if they promised you that they went to church every Sunday morning, you might find them getting motherless drunk every Saturday night, throwing up on your private furniture, stealing your belongings, killing your cacti, throwing parties every other night, refusing to house-keep, and dragging in even stranger strangers to spend the night (or a few days) in your apartment. And there won't be a thing you can do about it. If your short-list comprises ten hell-raisers, a hell-raiser is what you'll have to live with.

So, a few remarks are in order, addressed to Gail "eminence grise" Brown, Tracy Bodner, and the Board of Governors, reputed to have decided this policy (at whose instigation, I wonder?).

1. If this was a bad idea last

year, why is it a good idea this year?

2. When will you all realize that HUB is not an extension of Lister Hall? Many HUB tenants are mature students - a sight older and wiser than some of you - and they are not looking for a corner to throw a mattress but a place they can call home for a while. Treat us like apartment renters elsewhere; treat us as you would want to be treated.

3. Would you share your house with strangers foisted upon you by other strangers?

4. What advantage is it in for you? (or am I just being cynical? Perhaps you do it just for the merry hell of it all).

5. Bearing in mind the venom this issue raised last year (remember the petition?), why did you not canvass residents (you'd have lost handsomely)? Please understand that no-one likes being governed by *fait accompli*.

6. WILL YOU PLEASE QUIT HARASSING US AND JUST LEAVE US ALONE.

A. Lessee

Keep cruise missiles clean out of Alberta

Friends,
As you have probably heard, the Canadian Government now proposes to allow US testing of the Cruise missile in Canada (without nuclear warheads, we are told) - at the Alberta-Saskatchewan Primrose Bombing Range.

With this latest example of made-in-Washington policies for Canada, an upsurge of shock and opposition is building up across the country.

1. Please make your views known to Gilles Lamontagne, Minister, Department of National Defence, Government of Canada, Ottawa. Also to representatives in provincial legislatures (N.B., Alberta and Saskatchewan), Members of Parliament, the Prime Minister and the media (Letters to the Editor, etc.)

Remember that at the UN special session on disarmament in 1978, Mr. Trudeau called for 'suffocating the arms race' (including stopping the flight testing of new systems).

2. You may be able to help organize a local demonstration and/or vigil. (If so, please let me know - and the Canadian Friends Service Committee, 60 Lowther Avenue, Toronto).

European people have shown very clear and strong opposition to the deployment of the Cruise missile in Europe.

The Cruise is designed for non-detection and 'first-strike'

capability.

Canada should certainly oppose rather than facilitate the Cruise missile.

The Cruise Missile Conversion Project has been firmly opposing the production of the electronic guidance system (the 'Brains') for the Cruise missile, at the Litton plant in Rexdale (Toronto).

3. There will be a (3rd annual) walk to Litton on Good Friday. Friends are encouraged to participate, to send letters/telegrams of support, and to launch local actions or observances on Good Friday in solidarity with (and for better national coverage of) the Cruise Conversion demonstration and direct action in Toronto. (Thursday-Friday night candle vigils across the country would be great too.)

Peace and Friendship,
Bill Curry, Box 909
Wynyard, Saskatchewan SOA
4T0
(306-554-3936)
Canadian Friends
Service Committee
Western peace worker

ed note: Demonstration against Cruise missiles in Alberta. Rally at Cold Lake Air Force Base, Saturday, March 27 at 2 p.m. A bus will leave from the Unitarian Church, 12530-110 Avenue at 9:00 p.m. (\$6.00) For more information, call Eric at 432-4641.

Shihaterson Slate speaks

Dear Editor,
"What!! Another Election?!"

It seems to me that the majority of students in this institution are sick and tired of these "monthly elections." There is nothing more irritating than having campaign propaganda forced upon you during the early hours of the day. The result of this anger catapults "write-in" joke slates, like the Shihaterson slate, to the top. People who did not participate in the last election will vote "Ed Shihatoh for president" and "James Paterson for V.D. Internal."

No one wishes to elect these clowns, but I am sure that, due to the anger, this slate will receive enough votes to shock the entire Students' Union electoral system.

James Paterson
Write-in candidate
V.D. Internal



the Gateway

NOTICE

to all
Gateway Staff

Staff meeting for the express purpose of selecting the editorial staff for 1982-83 term on Thursday, March 25, 1982 at 4 p.m. Room 282 SUB.

VOTERS LIST FOR THOSE PERSONS ELIGIBLE TO VOTE ON NEXT YEARS STAFF.

| | | |
|-------------------|----------------------|---------------------------|
| Peter Michalyshyn | James Stevens | Gunnar Blodgett |
| Wes Oginski | Jim Miller | Louis Pena |
| Greg Harris | Garnet DuGray | Don Millar |
| Mary-Ruth Olson | Dave Cox | Peter Hammond |
| Robert Cook | Bob Kilgannon | Tom Freeland |
| Jens Andersen | Kent Blinston | Jordan Peterson |
| Andrew Watts | Michael Skeet | Ben Yee |
| Richard Watts | Murray Whitby | Lloyd Takeyasu |
| Ray Giguere | Gerard Kennedy | David Benoit |
| Mike McKinney | Peter Durovic | Matt Moralis |
| Peter West | Diana Taschuk | Mike Walke |
| Geoffrey Jackson | Dave Oginski | Peter Melynchuk |
| Anne Stephen | Terri-Lynn Paulguard | Pierre Trudeau |
| Alison Annesley | Mike Eklund | Marianne Nielson |
| Peter Jarvis | John Roggeveen | Brent Jeffery |
| Martin Beales | Dave Chan | Liz Hunt |
| Ken Tsai | Cindy Oxley | Billy McKay |
| Vic Marchiel | Beth Jacob | Igor and Jessica Levental |

Please attend