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## Dispute being resolved

by Mark Roppel

The split between Students' Orientation Services (SORSE) Director Debra Nichols and the Students' Union may finally be resolved.

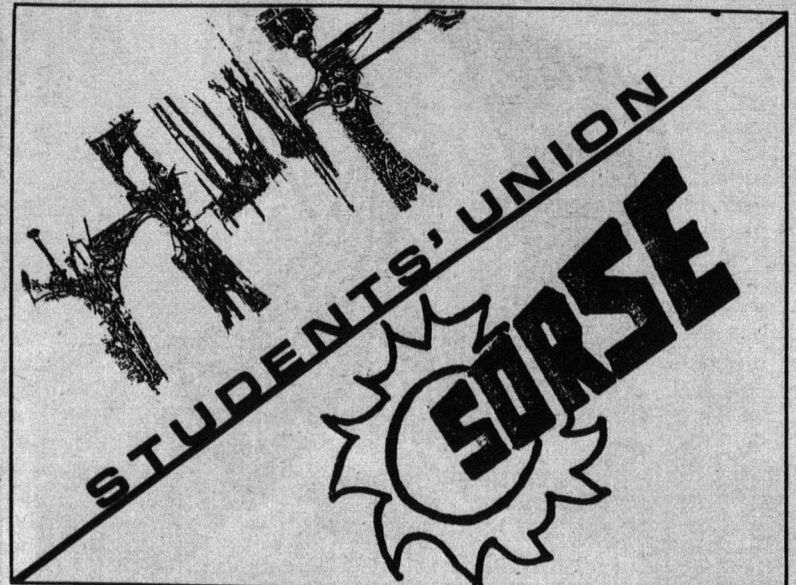
"Basically we have worked out an arrangement until the end of her term," said SU Vice-President Internal Peter Block. Nichols' term as director runs until the end of the month.

Block and VP External Andrew Watts have withdrawn their motion before Council to have Nichols fired. For her part, Nichols, who accused the SU Executive of conducting "guerilla warfare" against SORSE is withdrawing her complaint against the executive.

The feud began on August 25 when Block wrote a "private and confidential" letter to Nichols accusing her of "covering up" the fact that she had acquired a second job.

Block went on to say the "Executive considers the SORSE Director a full-time position and pays it accordingly. The fact that you have chosen to treat it as casual employment, while at the same time drawing a full-time salary, was considered an abuse of your position and an insult to the Student's Union in general... you must immediately terminate one of your full-time positions."

Block also states in his letter "the fact that in your opinion the operation of SORSE has not been affected by your outside employment is of little consolation." Now he says the mere fact that Nichols had an outside job was not the problem. "She could hold three full time jobs as long as her duties



as SORSE Director are fulfilled... there have been some complaints... Our (the Executive's) perception was that when we wanted to discuss things, she was not there"

Nichols responded to Block's letter with "a not at all private or confidential letter" on August 26. She pointed out that her mandate said nothing about outside employment: "Nowhere is it written that it is forbidden to make extra money by doing something else... nothing has been written or verbally conveyed to me at any time that requires the director of SORSE to be in the office at any specific time or to punch a time clock in any manner of speaking."

At the August 30 meeting of Student's Council Peter Block and Andrew Watts presented a motion: "that the Students Council terminate the employment of

Debra K. Nichols as Director of SORSE..."

Following this motion, the members of SORSE organized a petition to try and prevent the firing. A completed petition was never presented to Block.

Between then and now some furious mediation occurred. "A lot of discussion took place with a lot of individuals," said Block.

Even University President Myer Horowitz was involved, but his only comment about the role was, "I tried to be helpful and I hope I was."

As for the second employment of Debra Nichols, she isn't saying much.

In fact, Nichols isn't saying much about anything. "I don't want to cause any further problems with the executive... I really can't say anything."

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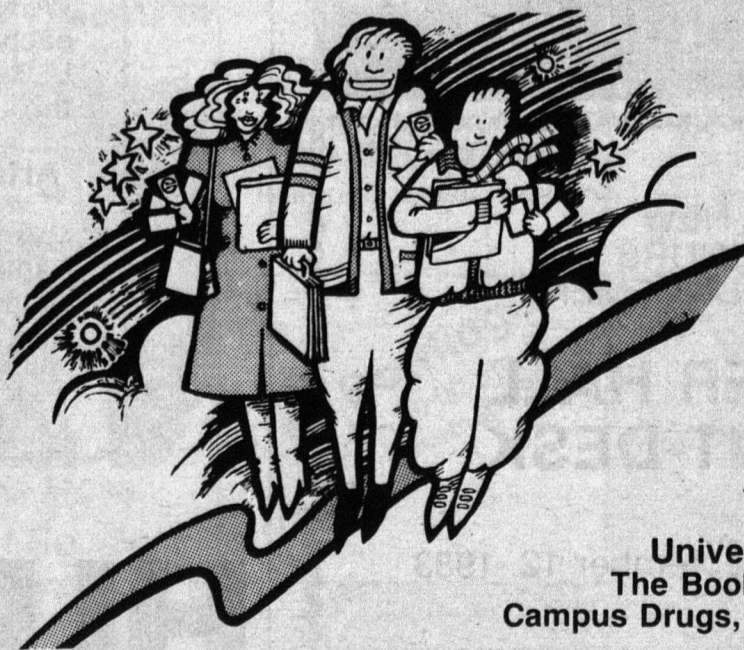
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