

How to be censored,
lesson #1:

The Gateway

"Take me to DIE board,
big boy"
— *Student Times*
March 1, 1989

Thursday March 2, 1989

The University of Alberta Students' Newspaper Since 1910

Satanic Verses disturbs campus Muslims

by Will Gibson

Although they are deeply disturbed about Salman Rushdie's *The Satanic Verses*, campus Muslims are not standing behind the reward for his death.

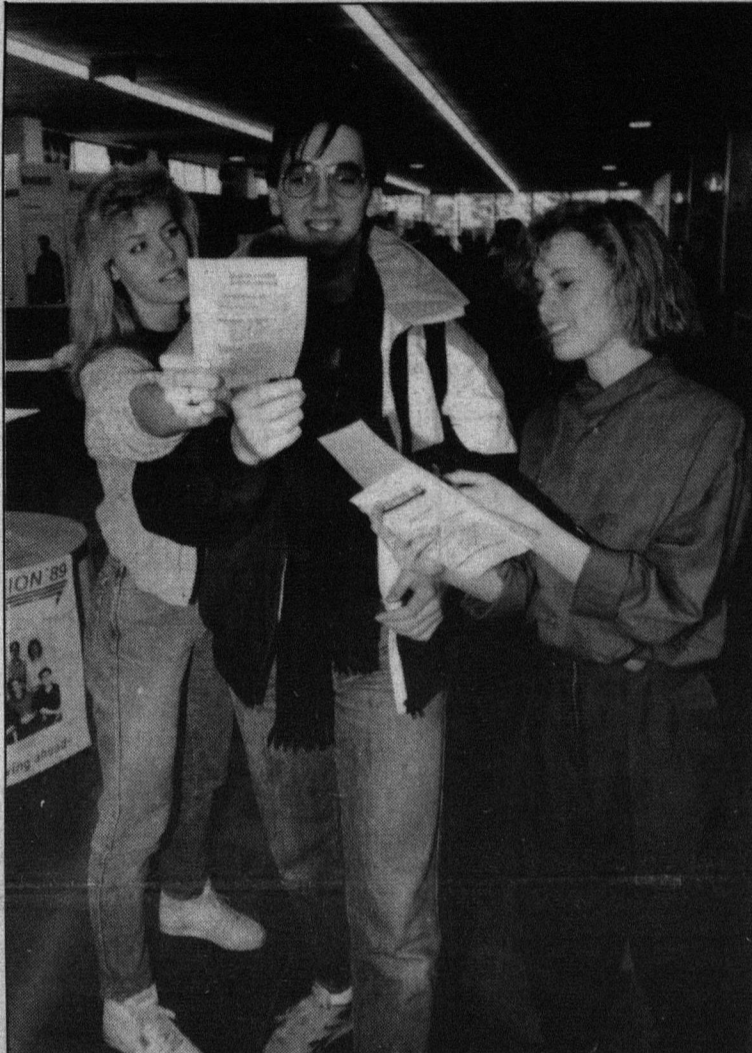
"In an Islamic state, Islam would take care of this matter (the book). In a non-Islamic state, we do not have any opinion on this (the reward) at the moment," said Moinuddin Yahya, vp of the Muslim Student Association.

Yahya does not feel the federal government should have allowed the book to sell in Canada. "I believe that they did not review from the viewpoint of Muslims. They simply looked into it, some bureaucrats simply looked into it. They are not experts in this matter."

"(There were) filthy things about figures in Islam. They certainly reflect hatred in the heart of that guy (Rushdie)," said Yahya. "If you read this book, in your mind, subconsciously if not consciously, the impact is 'Look at those Muslims, their leader is so and so' so it is causing a sort of hatred towards us."

Yahya believes the controversy over the book stems from the portrayal of Mohammad, the

MOHAMMAD — p 2



Second year Science student Greg Romen is propositioned by Rep candidate Melinda Bang (left) and D'89 campaign worker Astrid Sollbach. Greg probably wishes elections happened more often.

Colin Northcott

Radio funds on ballot

by Shannon Taylor

CJSR officials are hoping to guarantee financing for the University of Alberta radio station with a referendum being held in conjunction with the upcoming Student Union elections March 9 and 10.

"We're asking students to support allocating \$1.25 per term of their student union fees as the total annual SU financial grant to CJSR FM 88," said Philip Preville, spokesperson for the station.

Preville is a member of the committee heading the YES campaign for the referendum question. No students applied to Chief Returning Officer Michael Hunter to wage the NO campaign.

There has been confusion over the referendum question, Preville said. "No one wants to shut CJSR down. We're just looking for guaranteed funds," he said, adding a Yes vote will not mean a \$1.25 increase to station funds. "We're already getting about \$1.12," he said.

CJSR is rated as one of the top five stations in Canada, said station manager Chris Taylor. Its annual budget is \$118,000 with \$58,500 coming from student union funding, the rest from advertising and fundraising, said

Taylor.

While a YES vote will mean a slight increase to the budget for FM 88, the U of A station remain one of the least funded stations of its size in Canada. "We're getting a mere pittance compared to other stations. Of the top 10 stations across the country we probably have the least funding," Preville said.

Campus radio station officials from across Canada agree that CJSR receives little funding from the U of A SU.

"They're only asking for \$1.25! Is that it?," asked Edrie Sobstyl, station manager of CJSW at the University of Calgary.

"There is a student TV program here that runs once a week - they get more funding than that," she said referring to the \$1.25 in question. A similar referendum was held at U of C in 1984, and CJSW was guaranteed \$3 per student per semester, Sobstyl said.

"And we've got low funding compared to everybody else in Canada," she added. The U of C station's annual budget is \$190,000.

"Most (campus stations) have a flat rate of \$10 a year," Sobstyl said.

The University of Regina radio

MONEY — p 8

Hard times for campus paper

CRO bans *Student Times*

by Jeff Cowley

Students' Union officials impounded a University of Alberta newspaper Wednesday, for unfairly attempting to sway voters in the SU election.

SU officials removed copies of the *Student Times* newspaper from campus newstands Monday, believing that election material was biased.

"After reading some of the columns, it was my opinion that they were racist, libelous, offensive, factually inaccurate, and a deliberate attempt by an SU club to influence the outcome of the election," said chief returning officer Michael Hunter. All campaign material must be approved through the chief returning officer (CRO).

The *Student Times* is a registered Students' Union club. SU clubs and their publications are subject to editorial restrictions and are not allowed to formally endorse candidates in student elections, said SU vp internal Wendy Olson.

Olson, whose jurisdiction includes campus clubs, decided to pull the paper after Hunter voiced his concern.

Hunter said the election feature in the March 1 edition of the *Student Times* gave unbal-

anced coverage between various SU candidates.

He specifically questioned an editorial analysis of candidates experience, qualifications, and presumed electoral support on the campus.

Olson agreed with Hunter's recommendation and ordered that the paper be impounded. Olson refused comment until an official ruling is handed down.

"I had been requested by the managers of both slates to have the paper removed," Hunter said.

Student Times representative Rob Splane blasted the decision as "a ruling based on gut instinct, not the constitution."

"It's a deliberate act of censorship," he said. "We intend to fight it." Splane and the *Student Times* plan to appeal the decision before the Discipline, Interpretation, and Enforcement (DIE) Board Wednesday night.

SU president Paul LaGrange supported the appeal, saying that pulling the papers "wasn't a good decision ... I don't think it's a good idea for the student executive to get involved in election matters."

DIE board will decide whether the paper has infringed the SU elections bylaw which controls campaigning.



Phil Preville and CJSR campus radio are one of five top university stations in Canada, and they're hoping students will help to keep them that way. Next week students will vote on a referendum to clear the static on station funding.

INSIDE

News

The World is Watching: a look at U.S. news. p 3

Letters

Where's Captain Kirk? Joke slate eulogy. p 4

Arts

Get your MX Nuclear Detergent at the Third World Film Festival. p 9

Sports

Playoff hockey this weekend — Bears host the Manitoba Bisons. p 16

