

## NEWS BRIEFS

### Cutbacks: Western students raffle

LONDON (CUP) A tuition lottery has been organized by the Society of Graduate Students (SOGS) of the University of Western Ontario in response to the Federal government's intention to cut funds for Post-Secondary Education.

The draw will be held on October 29, which has been proclaimed a province-wide Day of Protest for Ontario students.

SOGS hopes to sell 3,500 tickets at \$1 apiece for a chance to win one of five prizes that represent the approximate value of various student expenses.

The first prize of \$1,000 represents the present cost of one year's tuition. Two second prizes of \$500 each represent one term's tuition, and two third prizes of \$250 each represent the cost of books per term.

"The primary purpose of the lottery is not to raise money but, rather, to heighten awareness of the Federal government's intentions," said SOGS President, Paul Vick.

Vick said the lottery can function as "a mechanism to get students more involved in an issue which drastically affects them"

"Some students won't be able to go to school next year if the proposed cutbacks become a reality," said Vick.

He noted that several students who bought tickets for the lottery commented they could really use the prize money.

### U of A governors want 30% tuition

EDMONTON (CUP) Tuition fees will have to rise 30 per cent next year to reach the level where the University of Alberta Board of Governors wants them.

In a letter written to Premier Peter Lougheed, Board chairperson John Schlosser attacked the government for not approving a 15 per cent U of A tuition increase for this fall.

"University students at one time paid approximately 15 per cent of (operating) costs and with your minister's refusal to increase fees this percentage will now be 8 per cent of operating costs," Schlosser said.

"If you do not increase the fees and do not allow a 30 per cent fee (increase) next year, the amounts will become meaningless," he said.

A 30 per cent increase would push tuition fees from their present \$606 to about \$790 and total student fees (including health, athletic, and Students' Union fees) from \$689 to \$873 per year.

Schlosser also suggests in the letter that tuition fees should make up a constant 10 per cent of university costs.

Nowhere does he mention that the reason for the university's fee increase request last spring was the Lougheed government's inadequate funding of the university.

However, university president Myer Horowitz said repeatedly that last year's tuition increase request was a last ditch attempt to make up for the government's inadequate university funding.

### UBC eliminates 206

VANCOUVER (CUP) There are 206 fewer teaching assistants at the University of British Columbia this academic year.

The teaching assistants union released figures showing 21.7 per cent of last year's assistantships have been left vacant. This seriously damages the quality of education at UBC, said union president Jonathan Katz.

"Students at this institution are being short changed in at least three ways," said Katz.

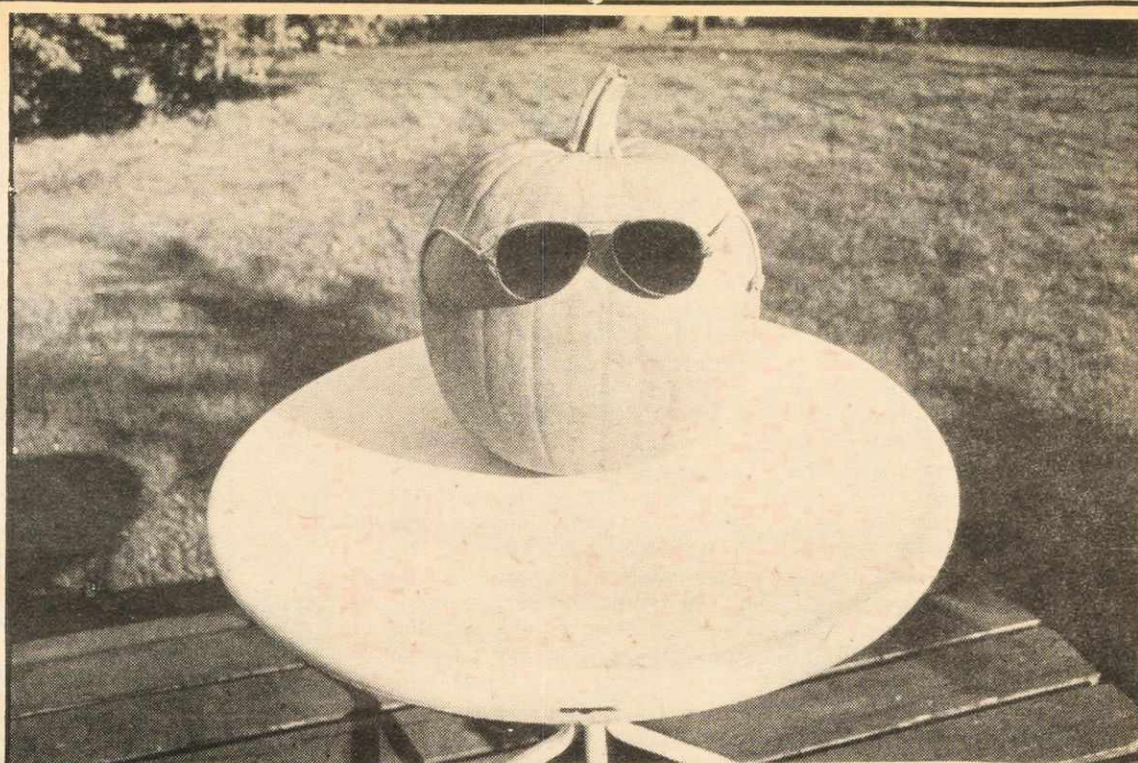
"There are fewer and larger discussion groups and lab sessions, access to faculty has decreased because their workload has increased and finally, without adequate employment for graduate students, UBC will fail to attract top quality students," charged Katz.

The union may file a grievance over the job cuts, according to Katz.

The current contract says that 60 days notice must be given to the union prior to elimination of jobs for either technological reasons or changes in the way in which the university uses teaching assistants, said Katz.

Katz said the university did not give the union notice

But while the contract stipulates notice prior to eliminating jobs, the university has the right to decrease the number of teaching assistants. "There is no contract requirement for the university to hire anyone. And it's too damn bad," said Katz.



Our Oxford English Dictionary offers this definition: 'punk- in': 'reactionary vegetable'

### Pumpkin poetry prevails

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