

This is a bank?



Our bank here on campus really got in the swing of things for Hallow'en last week. We have to admire their spirit.

photo by Kavanagh

Editor says: "Tell me or else!!"

When Brian Blomster returned to California State U. in Sacramento this fall to take over as editor of the student paper, he discovered he was saddled with an agreement that he just couldn't live with as a journalist.

Under the terms of an out-of-court libel suit settlement involving articles on the Church of Scientology the paper had run several years earlier, Blomster found he was expected to run six pages of church-written articles without attribution. The agreement, which was signed by the president of Associated Students, Inc. (ASI), also stipulated that the paper, the State Hornet, was not to print any articles about the settlement.

The agreement had been made last spring by lawyers for ASI's insurance company. The association was named in the original suit.

But no one had told editor Blomster about the agreement and it didn't take him long to decide what to do: He flatly refused to print the Scientology articles, calling them "propaganda," and then he ran two front

page stories and an editorial making the whole arrangement very public.

And just as he had been kept in the dark about the out-of-court settlement, Blomster told no one outside of the paper of his plans to make the story public. "If they (the student association) had known what we were going to do in advance, they might have frozen our funds and prevented us from publishing," he says.

The student association was predictably upset. ASI's president says he felt betrayed by not being informed of the editor's decision to refuse to go along with the agreement. But he claims he would not have attempted to muzzle the paper nor will he support any sanctions against Blomster for his actions.

ASI considers itself the Hornet's "publisher," a designation editor Blomster disputes. "They only provide \$20,000 out of our \$88,000 budget, he argues.

Local news media were unanimous in their support of the student editor and the college administration stayed out of the dispute for the most part. "The university president has given us

his tacit support," says Blomster. Meanwhile, he is trying to resolve the church's libel complaint in his own way. He met with two Scientology officials and agreed to do a "straight news story" on the church, in which church representatives will be allowed to present their views.

Ironically, the Church of Scientology is involved in its own freedom-of-press dispute over an FBI raid on the offices of the church newspaper. Blomster says the church officials he met with said they wouldn't have gone along with the agreement the lawyers worked out either, because they recognize it as being contrary to First Amendment rights and journalism ethics.

The original stories on Scientology were run in 1974 and the church filed a \$2-million suit shortly afterwards. The stories, a series of first-person accounts of experiences with the church, were called "crappy" by current editor Blomster, but he doesn't agree they were libelous. "The guy who wrote them obviously had a bone to pick with the church," he says. And he adds, "I was a junior in high school at the time."

Women for P.A. at work

Alterations in the Discussion Paper on Matrimonial Property Law Reform in New Brunswick recently constructed by the Department of Justice was the topic at a meeting of the "Women For Political Action" held last Tuesday.

The Department of Justice's discussion paper does not recognize business assets as family assets, (a family asset is anything other than the matrimonial home, household goods which are acquired during the marriage) but in many situations, it is argued that both spouses

work towards the success of the business according to Anne McClelland, spokesperson for UNB's Law School. She said the husband does all the work, or at least most of it in the store or shop; but at the same time, the wife might be "contributing in an indirect way."

Another form of family assets appears in pension benefits. She suggested that the "homemaking wife" receive a share of the pension. It is referred to as "Something towards which both spouses will have worked." This percentage will depend on how

long the marriage has lasted and what part of the wife's working life this represents according to McClelland.

Women For Political Action also wants to see the same laws applied to common law marriages as for legally married couples.

They view this as simply a means of protection for both parties. The conditions relating to a matrimonial home must also be similar.

The final decision in any case will be made by the judge. McClelland said there are those who will sympathize with the wife and others with the husband. She said "in this city, lawyers admit that they pick the judge who is anti-women or anti-men, depending on what their case is."

After being informed about the proposed legislature, anyone who is married will be given one year to opt out. According to McClelland, either spouse may opt out on his own. The other will later be informed of this by means of a registered letter. Women For Political Action want to make certain this will actually happen.

Anyone who is already married or plans on marrying should be well aware of all the facts behind these very broad lines. Anyone interested can attend a public hearing held at 7:30p.m. November 6, room G12 of the Centennial Building.

Honoraria now being reviewed for the following CHSR Positions:

- Director
- Station Manager
- Business Manager
- Program Manager
- News Director
- Chief Engineer

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