

the Gateway

EDITORIAL

The impossible middle

"I'll work with anyone on this campus who is working for the same things I'm working for."

Mike Walker

You can just imagine the Walker campaign ringleaders Keith Krause and Don Millar (not necessarily in that order), choking desperately on this morsel of straightforwardness from their candidate.

It would have been refreshing at least, in this cliched day of blandness and non-committance and generality and moderateness, to see a candidate seeking public approval via the ballot by saying what he thought about the issues, such as they are.

Thus, we would have expected Mike Walker, who in the past year has maintained a pretty high profile on campus as a FAS-ACT-CFS student activist-organizer against cutbacks-student loans-tuition, to come through positively and out front on the idea of free tuition, on his clear support for FAS-CFS, and against oppositions 'moderate' stance, which Walker has ineffectively excused merely as cozying up to business and government leaders by student political club types out for personal gain and advancement.

Somewhere again in this election Walker got too serious about winning. In the first election, February 5, he procrastinated near the end of his campaign, fearful of being red-baited and covetous of Bill Cottle's middle ground.

There are two ways to interpret this, given that Walker and Cottle almost evenly split the vote: either Walker was even in his mild form too radical for U of A students, or he wasn't radical enough.

Shortly before this second election on Friday, Mike intimated that he might approach the campaign more honestly and straightforwardly and not waffle on what he thought were the important issues. However, in the end, it appears to me that he did 'moderate' with only a few glimpses of his real arrogance and forcefulness showing now and then.

Robert Greenhill, disparaged by my colleague Greg Harris on page five of this paper, sits comfortably in the middle, moderate ground occupied by him naturally and left for him by former presidential candidate Bill Cottle. From their position, Cottle, and now Greenhill, had Walker over the barrel, as they say. Either Walker would have to come out the radical, committed progressive student activist, in which case there would be a real out front choice between the two camps, or he would have to submerge his activist image and go for the strategically important middle ground - *In which case the at-home moderates could 'red-bait' (to use Walker campaign jargon) Walker behind his back.*

All of this has happened, of course, typified by the mercenary attack on Walker for his views on 'no tuition.' Worse, it has been implied that Walker is deceiving people in his moderacy, leaving Greenhill the pragmatic, honest candidate.

Thus, we have had the sleazy, back-biting by both sides in this most recent election campaign, the kind of politics one expects when two parties are trying to occupy the same space.

What will the voters think? My guess would be they will think that Walker's underlying motive is to win the election, and that he would be committed enough to submerge his real motives temporarily to effect his program. It is not an uncommon election tactic, but it leaves Walker open to baiting from the opposition, and it leaves that opposition mostly unblemished.

In all of this, Greenhill comes out far too political to be serious about student issues, but leaves Walker much too serious to win the election.

Peter Michalyszyn

a note...

... a note on ever-extension of the brain, by Ernest Van der Haag.

The Intellectual as a professional arose in western history basically as an articulator of religious ideas. Having lost his faith in actual religion, he now is an articulator of pseudo-religious ideas, of a secular religion, such as Marxism, which differs from religion in the original sense that paradise is located not in nowhere - in Utopia - but located in a particular place - the Soviet Union, China, Cuba - and whenever they get too discredited a new place is found.

Election II

More of the night the candidates came home

second feature at drive-in only:
Revenge of the Board who wouldn't DIE

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

A grain of electioneering malpractice

Dear Editor,

In the past I've taken the letters regarding the "practices" of the last election with a grain of salt. However, the latest inside story extends the use of B.S. to a new extreme.

Prior to the start of campaigning for the last election, every candidate was given a booklet titled: *Instructions to Candidates*. It reads: "In residence, the following restrictions apply: No campaign materials may be placed in the students' mailboxes." Why the campaign manager for the Walker Slate need ask a woman at the Lister Hall front office whether he could place literature in the mailboxes when it was so clearly stated in the handout is unfathomable. Whether or not it is legal to place the materials on doors is irrelevant.

Prior to first DIE Board



Letters to the Editor should be a maximum of 250 words on any subject. Letters must be signed and include faculty, year and phone number. No anonymous letters will be published. All letters should be typed, although we will reluctantly accept them if they are very neatly written. We reserve the right to edit for libel and length. Letters do not necessarily reflect the views of the Gateway.

meeting I asked Rob Greenhill whether he would present our case since I felt it important to have an articulate spokesman who was not directly involved with the election. At that time I had every intention of campaigning again. Rob Greenhill decided to run only after I had decided not to for academic reasons.

Finally, I question the legality of Mike Walker's campaigning in

this election. Bylaw 300 states that each candidate "shall be responsible for ensuring that practices that are unfair to other candidates are not followed" and that "any candidate who is found guilty of unfair electioneering practices which would prejudice unfairly the results of an election in his favour shall be disqualified."

Bill Cottle
Eng 3

Ignorance is no excuse

Re: Don Millar's "Inside Story on Election Violation" March 23/82.

So we finally get a true confession, a confession to one and all, **yes Mr. Millar, you must certainly "made an honest mistake"**. It is about as honest as Nixon's Presidential term. In law, ignorance is no excuse, Mr. Millar, what you did was in violation of the rules and regulations whether or not you consider it an "honest mistake". The same goes to Lisa Walter, and Dawn Noyes. Your

behavior with respect to this election is most unbecoming. Mr. Greenhill and Mr. Conway are accused of "trying to divert the election campaign from the issues" by Mr. Walker. Well, to me, honesty and running a campaign by the rules is an issue. Mr. Walker, if you feel that you and your people cannot run a good campaign within the rules and regulations I suggest you pull out.

Wade Cummings
Commerce II

Watering down feminism

Teri Paulgard may regard Lois Sweet as "more human" subsequent to her remarks in the Gateway interview, but I for one see her only as a lot less smart.

Ms. Sweet's brand of watered-down feminism (all unpalatable elements removed, of

course) is insidiously destructive to the progress for which feminists (or should I say lesbians?) and others have fought hard and long. You won't catch me opening a door for her.

L. Shalom
Rehab Med II'

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Staff (what else?) this issue: Lots of really boring people worked on this one. Jim Miller talked about toenails, while Dave Cox and Anne Stephen compared navels. Geoffrey Jackson complained about a pen he had once. James Stevens (who the hell is he?) and Robert Woodbury, Gunnar Blodgett (our insanegymnast/residence) complained about some of them living in Red Deer (ahahahah). Robin Nering (RED DEER TOO) Lee Wegenast, Al Coe, Heather Hoven (decided that since they all lived in RED DEER (ahahahah) they were the most boring of all). Allison Annesley agreed wholeheartedly, and she wasn't even here.