

University environ- mentalists need help

ICEQ needs you.

The Interfaculty Committee on Environmental Quality is a concerned group of faculty and grad students from the U of A. ICEQ has no support from any official body of the university and the only financing comes from a \$1,000 Alberta Research Council grant and small private donations.

Despite this handicap the committee has done considerable research on the environment. A study of effluent flow patterns in the North Saskatchewan River found that provincial government sampling which assumed usual mixing of the pollutants was misleading because it missed the currents carrying the wastes, rendering the results useless. The engineer responsible for the earlier study admitted the importance of the flow patterns but the government cannot be forced to properly redo the survey, and the ICEQ lacks the funds for such a task.

Along the same lines the ICEQ discovered that the only place where the quality of air was sampled was outside the third floor window of the Provincial Administration Building.

No attempt is made at measuring the quality of air on Jasper Avenue or Groat Road despite the fact that most of the pollution in Edmonton is carbon monoxide, lead, hydrocarbons and nitric oxide and dioxide comes from automobiles.

In Alberta, individual citizens can do nothing against industrial polluters said Dr. Daniels of the ICEQ. The fisherman whose livelihood is lost when mercury of strip mining wastes are introduced into the river or lake cannot recover his losses through suing the polluter unless he owns the land. Even if the dumping is in contravention of government

regulations, the government cannot be forced to act. The ICEQ is working on an environment Bill or Rights in order to give the citizen or the land recourse for damages suffered.

To continue these projects the committee needs both money and volunteers. Interested persons can phone 432-3617 or 432-4086.

Clare Drake

he has attended the Golden Bear mentor's summer hockey school. Coach Drake suggested that Dave come out and take part in Golden Bear practice session, which Dave has been doing for about two weeks now, taking part in all the drills, line rushes, scrimmages, and so on, generally getting the chance to skate and get back in shape. When the exhibition game with the Monarchs was scheduled for Tuesday night and Coach Drake decided not to dress Dave Couves, who is nursing an injured elbow, he told the young redhead to show up with his equipment on time to catch the team bus transporting the players from campus to the Gardens.

Dave played the game, taking a regular shift at left wing and centre ice on the fourth line. Although obviously younger and not as physically developed as any of the other players on either team, he gave a good account of himself in a 4-1 Bear

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Dr. Craig's dealings with the Health Care Commission before they found the \$43 discrepancy. Nine month's work for the sake of \$43? The whole affair seems to indicate either Dr. Craig's honesty or police inefficiency."

Dr. Armstrong was critical also of the Edmonton Journal. "Their coverage of the entire affair was very poor," he said. "They printed the police press release on Tuesday, and nothing else since. They have so far totally failed to perceive that this case involved the welfare of hundreds of unfortunate people."

An Edmonton City lawyer had this to say on the matter:

Students union re-organization gives more power to executive

The most significant facet of the document on reorganization of the Students' Union that was passed in principle at the council meeting last Monday night is the shift in the power structure that it would precipitate. Vice president Dave Biltek who chaired the committee which prepared the report, is to increase specialization by individual members of council. This would be accomplished by increasing emphasis on the boards of council such as the Academic Affairs Board on which only a few members of council and a few other members of the Students' Union sit, and by putting limits on the powers of the council.

Although it is not spelled out in the document, it was said by people who sat on the reorganization committee that one of the side effects of the proposals would be to reduce the frequency of council meetings to once a month. This means that boards with only limited representation would carry on for long periods unchecked by the bulk of council.

Checks by council on the executive would also be altered. The powers of the council on the executive would also be altered. The powers of the council, as distinct from those of council have been more clearly defined. The powers of council would be restricted to:

- setting the annual budget
- authorizing the executive to borrow in excess of \$1000.00
- authorizing the Students' Union entering into any outside association
- reorganizing the council and the executive.

victory. In the Bear dressing room after the game, Dave expressed his gratitude to Coach Drake for allowing him to suit up and see action.

"It felt good to play again", he stated, "I got more ice-time tonight with the Bears than I've had in the past two months."

Coach Drake commented that he wanted Dave to play Tuesday night because he felt that somewhere along the line the youngster had been unjustly dealt with in some manner and that the important thing is that the boy should be "given the opportunity to play hockey."

Which brings us to the point of this article. Not to point an accusing finger at either the Edmonton Oil Kings or the Edmonton Minor Hockey Association or whatever organizations are involved in governing minor hockey in this city, or at individuals within any of these organizations, although in the particular case mentioned here and many others that are

"The police should not have arrested Dr. Craig. Normal procedure in such cases is to issue a summons. It seems highly unlikely that a well-paid doctor would deliberately bother to risk trouble by defrauding the government of such a piddling sum as \$43."

Staff Sergeant Joe Poss, who was in charge of the police investigation, said when contacted by phone, "I never discuss departmental affairs over the phone—why, I have no way of knowing who I'm talking to." This was his only comment.

Also silent was the College of Physicians and Surgeons, a body which now has the power to suspend Dr. Craig's license since

he has been charged with fraud. A college spokesman said, "We don't have all the facts, so it would be unwise for us to comment on the matter."

Reliable sources say the CPS disapproves of Dr. Craig's prescriptions of methadone for the addicts he treats. Methadone is a synthetic, addictive narcotic used to help heroin addicts either relieve some of their suffering or, in the case of very sincere individuals, get off heroin altogether. Methadone makes heroin totally ineffective, and an addict sincere about getting off heroin can gradually get off methadone, once he has substituted the methadone for the usual heroin, by gradually

reducing the dosage. Not only that, but methadone is legal—although many people frown on its use—and thus the addict can get from a doctor and need not resort to crime to feed his habit.

The matter now rests in the hands of the courts, and therefore Dr. Craig has declined to comment on the matter. "Since the courts are now handling the case, I'm not at liberty to discuss it. As for the patients I had been treating, some will be referred to other doctors; some will be referred to Vancouver; and the rest will likely go back to heroin, possibly resorting to crime to feed their habits."

By a two-thirds majority, council may also:

- change the constitution and by-laws.
- veto any decision of any of the boards or committees of the Students' Union.
- recall any member of the boards or committees of the students union.
- specify jurisdiction of any matter over which there is any dispute.

The executive, on the other hand, has the power to:

- hold responsibility for the overall operation of the union.
- make appointments to positions in the Students' Union
- delegate assignments to boards for either decisions or recommendations.

In addition to these, the executive has any power not specifically assigned.

This gives sweeping and unprecedented powers to the executive. Previously, the executive could declare anything to be within their jurisdiction, but the council had the ability to reverse such a declaration, if it clearly was not just a detail matter. This, coupled with weekly or at least bi-weekly meetings, has allowed council to prevent the executive, which is rather small and not representative of all faculties, from doing anything of which it did not approve.

Certainly giving council the right to make grants leaves plenty of room for unpopular decisions.

Power to make appointments to committees is another area

that leaves considerable power to the executive committee. A number of councillors expressed the opinion that this will not really change things as council usually rubber stamps personnel board decisions without considering the qualifications of applicants. However, the document appears to recommend that even which councillors will serve on what boards will be in the hands of the executive; appointment of councillors never went through personnel board. Also, the fact that a two-thirds majority would be required to remove a board member who is not acting in the interests of the Students' Union may cause council trouble.

members under the reorganization proposals. The executive will meet often. SU Boards will be responsible to report to the executive.

When it comes time to put something through council, the executive will be far more broadly informed on what the union is doing—giving them considerably more influence than any individual non-executive councillor. However, even this will not often occur once a month. Most matters of urgency will have to be dealt with by the five-man executive.

In the words of president Don McKenzie, "When we're talking about residual powers, we're talking about things that come up instantly, and that the executive can deal with instantly and then council can deal with them afterwards." That is, council can deal with them a couple of weeks after measures

Giving the executive residual powers may also hide a multitude of evils.

The ability of council to amend the constitution and to specify jurisdiction may give council some control. However, if monthly meetings are held, it will take time to implement these measures—especially constitutional amendments which requires reading at three successive meetings. In addition, it will be unclear how sweeping the power to define jurisdiction will be until the by-laws and constitution committee presents the final form of the amendments; it may be that council will not be able to re-define matters clearly set out as executive matters without a constitutional change.

Not only will the prospect of fewer council meetings make it more difficult for council to exercise any control over what its boards are doing, but it is proposed that council actually be required to muster a two-thirds majority simply to prevent policy from being implemented.

In other words, a matter could be implemented by a very

small minority of councillors together with a few other Students' Union members, and if there were no budgetary objections, it might prove impossible for the elected representatives of the students to reverse the decision, even



Dave Biltek

though a majority of them want to do so.

Even the fact that a two-thirds majority of council would be able to reverse a policy implies that council really knows what is happening on the boards. All the boards will have councillors sitting on them, and hopefully will have their minutes circulated to council members. However, will councillors really dig through minutes of boards with an eye to the implications of what the boards are doing—will they really be as interested as they are in council itself (which is often too little)?

The idea of specializing the jobs of councillors means that Students' Union affairs will be handled largely by minorities of elected representatives.

An objection to this method was raised by engineering rep, Howard Christensen. He said that when he was called upon by his faculty association to tell what the Students' Union was doing, he would only be able to comment on the activities of one or two boards. He might have the minutes from other boards, but he could not tell what went into the decisions from these.

But, if a councillor is unable to comment on what the union is doing, how is he to decide whether to act against them?

What happens to this power that council abdicates? There will probably be at least one executive member of the Students' Union on each Students' Union committee. The executive is a small body (five

By Bob Blair