

# Ski club going downhill in investigation

by Allison Annesley

The Students' Union has begun investigation proceedings into three of their registered clubs to determine more clearly the nature of their social and financial activities.

The inquiries, initiated in the form of a letter requesting information about club activities and a list of financial data from Club's Commissioner Sterling Sunley, began in mid-October. Sunley began looking into the three clubs after hearing various rumours.

The three clubs involved are The Common Times Society, The Student Anti-Nuclear Committee, and the Downhill Riders Ski Club. So far, only

the Downhill Riders have co-operated fully with Sunley's request for information.

In the case of the Downhill Riders, members of the SU and club members themselves complained to Sunley that they suspected the club was operating as a business rather than as a service to students which included sending the Club's executive on free ski trips.

According to SU President Robert Greenhill, the practice of sending club executives on free ski trips (one complaint) is perfectly acceptable "only if it is within the club's constitution and all the members agree with it."

The problem originates with SU Clubs Policy, which presently includes no provision requiring clubs to annually account for their financial activities.

Says Greenhill, "We offer clubs a great deal of autonomy, considerable space, and a great deal of financial assistance through our different granting boards an co-sponsorship of cabarets, it's therefore very important that we be sure clubs aren't abusing the privileges the SU grants them."

The Common Times Society, a choral group responsible for the U of A's 75th Anniversary record, has been closely linked with the third club in question, the Student Anti-Nuclear

Club. VP Internal Ray Conway fears that because the memberships are so similar in the two, they may be one and the same club trying to double their privileges. Conway says he can offer no explanation of what a music appreciation group and an anti-nuclear group would have in common.

While the Downhill Riders have now submitted all the information requested of them by both Greenhill and Sunley, the other two clubs have been less co-operative. The Common Times Society has submitted an activities list but no financial records. The Student Anti-Nuclear Club has not been seen or heard from, Conway says, for about three months.

This may have something to do with the trouble this club had earlier this year by improperly running a Dinwoodie cabaret with less than the required number of staff, leaving the SU to cover for the \$1300 loss incurred by the disastrous event. The club, which was supposed to share in 65% of the loss, has been nowhere in evidence since being barred from holding any more cabarets in Dinwoodie. Says Conway, "It's fairly likely they'll be de-constituted."

The Downhill Riders have merely been "under investigation" and Conway is not prepared to turn the inquiries into a "witch hunt".

"It all we can prove is that they keep sloppy records, that is not just reason to de-constitute them," he said.

Of there being no regulation forcing clubs to submit comprehensive financial statements, Greenhill says, "I don't know why the issue wasn't dealt with a long time ago."

## Writing incompetency

# Report coming soon

by Jens Andersen

The study into poor writing competency among high school graduates will probably be released to General Faculties Council in late January or early February, says U of A VP Academic Dr. George Baldwin.

Baldwin stated that the possibly controversial report, completed in late September, required an accompanying statement "to identify the principles behind the 18 or 20 quite specific recommendations in the report." Both report and statement of principles (completed last week) are now being circulated among "stakeholders" who would be affected

Says Greenhill of the BSB recommendation, "It will save us time and the club's embarrassment with these kinds of investigations."

The Building Services Board discussed a constitutional amendment which would require clubs to account for their previous year's finances as a condition of re-registration last Thursday and recommended the change to Council.

Club's Commissioner Sunley regrets that there has been no policy to monitor clubs' financial record keeping though he has "beefed up" the clubs manual to provide specific instructions for how clubs should be keeping their books.

Concerning other rumors about how club profits have been spent, the Downhill Riders Executive says, "There are absolutely no club assets." Downhill Riders also say, "Depending on the amount of work they put in, we'll send exec or members on trips for a discount or for free."

Sunley hopes Council accepts BSB's recommendation requiring clubs to submit their previous year's financial records as a condition of re-registration.

Says a member of the Downhill Riders executive, "If they wanted an investigation, it should have been done last year for last year's books."

Note: The motion to require that clubs submit their previous year's financial statements as a condition of re-registration was passed in students' Council last night. (25 for - 2 against)

by the recommendations. On campus these are primarily people in the Faculty of Education.

Only when these people have had a chance to respond will the report, statement of principles and responses be presented to GFC. Baldwin said, however, that the report was not confidential.

Baldwin said the collaboration between the University and the Alberta Teacher Association which produced the report was "one of our great triumphs," since it is the first time the two have worked together on the problem.

# GFC public on native studies

by Gilbert Bouchard

Within the next few weeks the General Faculties Council (GFC) will make public their findings concerning the proposed native studies program.

Carl Urion, the advisor on native affairs at the U of A outlined the history of the proposal and its importance to Alberta's native people.

Urion mentioned that the proposed program has received "unanimous

endorsement by native associations within the province." In fact the Indian Association of Alberta first proposed the notion in a formal proposal in 1972.

In 1978 the Senate task force on native studies made 20 recommendations, one of which was to consider a native studies college. Also in 1978 GFC received a ten thousand dollar grant from the Metropolitan Life Insurance Co. which it used to fund a

committee to study the feasibility of native studies.

In October 1981, a draft proposal was circulated among the deans of the University, the Indian community and other interested parties.

Urion sums up the program's history: "As it stands now as a result of consultations since last October a revised draft is being considered by GFC and will go forward within the next month." This culminates four years of concentrated study.

Urion also explained just what the native studies program will teach. It will be a "multi-disciplinary study on native issues including development, native languages, native politics, native graphic arts, native pedagogic tradition, research method and design specifically applied to native people and studies of land use."

The native studies program would also provide a much needed research facility, for example, the 60 or so Cree language teachers across the north of Alberta have no research unit for such a large area. The native studies program, according to Urion, would aid in improving the level of native teaching.

The program would also attract native students to the U of A. Urion mentioned that only about 110 native students attend the U of A.

"If they were represented according to population there would be 1000-1500 native students at the University. The reason students haven't been studying is that schooling for native students has been disastrous," Urion says.

Demonstrators responded by chanting "arrest the pornographers, not the drunks."

In a pamphlet handed out to the West End residents, picket organizers charged that since the firebombings the police have offered protection to Red Hot, but not to the women of B.C.

Another chain of stores specializing in porn recently opened its doors in the province. Tricolor Video Inc. now has four stores in operation.

November 26's demonstration was one of several protests that are shifting from store to store. And about 200 women invaded a police station November 25 with tapes from a Tricolor store, demanding it be prosecuted under Section 159 of the criminal code. The matter was forwarded to the crown council's office.

Meanwhile, December 11 has been designated a province-wide day of protest. Picketing is planned at all 13 Red Hot Video outlets.

# 'Red Hot' porn issue

VANCOUVER (CUP)—Resistance to British Columbia's growing hardcore pornographic video distribution network continued November 26.

About 120 people in heavy rain and cold temperatures picketed Red Hot Video's recently-opened store in downtown Vancouver.

Demonstrators also circulated a petition calling for B.C.'s attorney-general to prosecute the chain for violating existing laws that prohibit distribution of violent and sexually explicit materials.

During the protest, the store's managers locked the doors and took Polaroid snapshots of protesters.

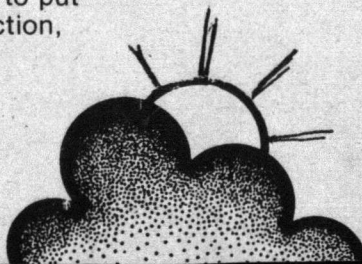
A group calling itself Wimmin's Fire Brigade razed one Red Hot store Nov. 22 and set another ablaze. A third attempt to destroy a store was unsuccessful because a bomb failed to ignite.

Police were present at the hour-long demonstration, but they only crossed the street from the Safeway foodstore parking lot once to rouse a drunk who decided to sleep in a neighbouring store's doorway.

## Student HELP needs volunteers

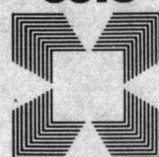
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