

I love cats. In fact, if I'm elected mayor...

The Gateway

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...I'll build cathouses all over town.
Nikki Fidynski
Mayorality candidate

Four hopefuls discuss some of the issues

Mayorality candidates face off

by Heather Moore

Mayor Decore was the overwhelming choice in the ballot taken at yesterday's mayoral debate. Four out of the five mayorality candidates were at the debate: Decore, Olsen, Chaudray, and Keehn.

The issues that were discussed in the mayoral debate proved to be interesting, informative, and controversial.

The main concern proved to be: the disclosure of campaign contributions, unemployment, funding to the arts, expansion of LRT to university area, and something that plagues us each spring, the water quality.

There was agreement that the quality of water in Edmonton had to be improved.

Decore's proposal for the water quality was to collect the water at the E.L. Smith plant instead of Rossdale where it is collected now. This was recommended in a water quality report.

Olsen stated that the quality of water was a priority since people were not able to drink it. What he intended to do was not clearly stated.

The candidates were unanimous on the issue that LRT expansion would be continued southward after it reached the university.

Decore stated that the expansion of LRT to the university was delayed

because of the decision to run it underground. The project should be completed in 1990.

After that is completed, he would plan to extend it further southward to Millwoods. All candidates agreed with this, although there was debate on whether it should be run underground, ground level or high above the ground.

Olsen clarified that although expansion to the South is needed now, at the time this is being considered, there could be need elsewhere which would be reviewed appropriately.

There was increased concern over the funding for the arts. This was brought up in the panel discussion as well as in the following question period.

Decore's enthusiasm for this subject was almost overwhelming.

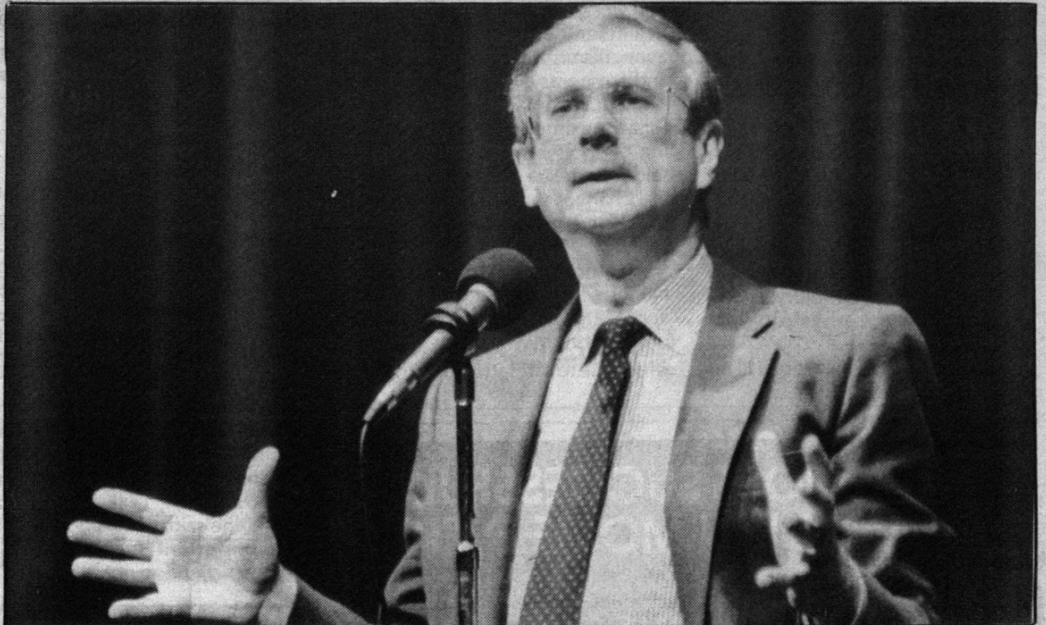
He emphasized the need for funding of the arts and stated that it is something that really does not cost a lot of money to develop.

Keehn questioned the issue of priorities — whether or not arts is a priority in an economic slump.

Chaudry, as well, agreed with the need for funding to the arts.

Olsen stated that jobs are a higher priority to enable us to enjoy the arts later on.

In the question period, Olsen again emphasized the need to create more jobs first, but con-



Decore makes a point at debate

ceded that there would be a review of funding in existence and whether more was needed.

All candidates were in agreement for the need of job creation and were duly concerned about the unemployment rate. However, no one had any concrete answers as to what could be done. Decore was the only candidate able to provide statistics as to the progress already

done.

All candidates agreed that they would comply with a law for mandatory campaign contribution disclosure.

Keehn was the only candidate who would pursue it if he was elected. Decore stated that he had consulted the provincial government, but acknowledged that it was up to them to pass the law.

Out of the 350 ballots distributed at the October 8th mayoral debate, 253 were returned. The results were as follows:

Decore 164
Olsen 67
Keehn 8
Chaudhary 12
Horowitz 1
Gumby 1

HAS funding cut "Neanderthal"

by Laurel Tokuda

Students who plan to turn to Hire A Student for jobs next summer may want to have a list of alternatives ready.

The federal government wants to cut the 1987 Alberta HAS budget by 10 per cent. This means that approximately \$20,000 — roughly the salaries of the PR co-ordinator, the secretary, and one student placement officer combined — will not be available to the program.

Provincially, the loss of the money could be detrimental to the

operations of HAS.

Michael Hunter, Students' Union Vice President External and a member of the HAS advisory committee, said such a cut was "Neanderthal governmental thinking."

Hunter stated that if five students were not placed because of the cutbacks and had to rely on student loans to pay for their education, the cost to the government would exceed the amount saved by trimming the budget.

Privatization of the program is probably in the works. In such a

case, a contract would be drawn up between the government and the HAS committee, enabling the committee to make all policy decisions which are now being made by the government. The Hire A Student committee would also be responsible for where and how money is spent.

Linda Hohol, Chairman of the committee, said, "Without having to go through red tape (getting governmental approval of decisions) we probably wouldn't need all that money."

However, Hohol does not approve of the cuts and adds, "I cannot overemphasize how disheartening it is to see the government take this action at this time."

Karen Rawson, Director of the HAS program and a federal employee was "not at liberty to tell you anything (because) the subject is still touchy."

Both Hunter and Hohol agree that the way to bring down the deficit is not to make harmful cuts, such as those to the HAS budget, but to "spend a little" in educating

the country's greatest natural resource."

Hunter emphasizes, "To shut down opportunities for young minds to develop is straight out of the Dark Ages. We're supposed to be moving ahead. (This would be) a step backwards into uneducated times."

He also remembers the 1984 federal campaign when the PM and Tories felt an obligation to youth. Questions Hunter, "Is this what taking care of the youth in the country is? If it is, we can bloody well do without."

Maritime universities' drug tests dropped

HALIFAX (CUP) — Athletes at St. Mary's and Dalhousie universities will have one less test to pass this year because the cost of compulsory drug testing is too expensive.

Dalhousie athletic director Wayne MacDonald said although he supports drug testing in principle, \$200 to \$300 price tag on an individual test is too much for his department to face.

"We support the idea of drug testing... if it ever became feasible, it is something we would do," said MacDonald.

Ian MacGregor, St. Mary's athletic director, said the issue hasn't reached his university because the technology "just isn't here yet, and

the tests cost too much."

The University of Calgary is the only Canadian university to administer compulsory drug tests on its inter-collegiate athletes. Calgary will be home to the 1988 Winter Olympics, and U of C wants its medicine clinic to be the second such certified facility in Canada. The only other facility is in Montreal.

The U of C has received funding from the provincial Alberta government and Sport Canada to help cover the costs of the tests.

Other universities in Canada will be slower than Calgary to implement drug testing, according to Mary Appleton, co-ordinator of

international programs of the Canadian Inter-collegiate Athletic Union.

Appleton said tests are thorough for the use of steroids, used by some athletes to build muscles and strength. "The tests are quite detailed. This might be an exaggeration, but they can show you everything you've had in the last six months," she said.

Though the CIAU has no compulsory drug testing policy, some other national athletic organizations, including the Canadian Track and Field Association and the Amateur Football Association, are considering or are using testing for national level participants.

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