

Students join loan board

by Mike Walker

Alberta students have finally been guaranteed a voice in administering the Alberta student loan system.

The government introduced a bill in the legislature last week providing for two student representatives on the Students' Finance Board (SFB). The SFB governs the Alberta student loans system.

The bill also adds two other members to the SFB, which will bring total membership to eleven from seven by early next year, according to Jim Horsman, Alberta Minister of Advanced Education.

Current legislation allows Horsman to appoint students to the Board, but doesn't force them to step down when they leave school. The result, Horsman said Friday, is that even if he appoints students to the SFB, within a few months they may no longer be students and thus no longer represent students.

The new legislation "clarifies that when the students leave (school), their term expires," Horsman said.

The bill comes after months of lobbying by the Federation of Alberta Students (FAS) for statutory student representation on the Board.

FAS seems happy with the plan.

"It makes a whole lot of sense to have students representing students," said FAS executive office Rachel Ferrington. "It's something the Federation and our members can take credit for....the main instigator has been FAS."

Horsman said the SFB and individual students' councils across the province had also asked for changes to the Board.

"I felt there was a very wide base of support for this," he said.

The SFB said it needed more members to help administer the expanded student finance program introduced last spring and the new scholarship programs announced last month.

FAS and Horsman still differ on how students are to be named to the Board. It is necessary to

meet soon to talk about appointments to the Board, according to Ferrington.

Horsman says the provincial cabinet will appoint student members from nominees submitted by FAS, students' councils and any other source.

"I'll welcome nominations from any source," Horsman said.

But Ferrington is not sure this process will result in appointees representative of Alberta students.

"We want to ensure that the student members are responsible to students in this province," she said. "I don't think the minister should handpick them."

Ferrington suggested all nominations should come from FAS at its spring conference. But not all Alberta post-secondary institutions are FAS members, so a special system of representation for non-members would have to be found.

"Non-members would be invited to the FAS spring conference and asked to submit nominations (to the SFB)," Ferrington said. All nominees would have to be approved by the member and non-member representatives before being submitted to Horsman. So, student nominees would need the approval of representatives of all Alberta students rather than only one group, according to Ferrington.



...both the Bear and the Bears fell down on the job.

photo Brent Jeffery

Fed spreads the word

by Keith Krause

"If we want to continue responding in a national way, the federal government needs the tools and resources to do this. The danger is we might lose this authority."

This justification for patriation of the constitution was offered by Lloyd Axworthy, federal minister of state for

Employment and Immigration at a forum Monday in SUB Theatre.

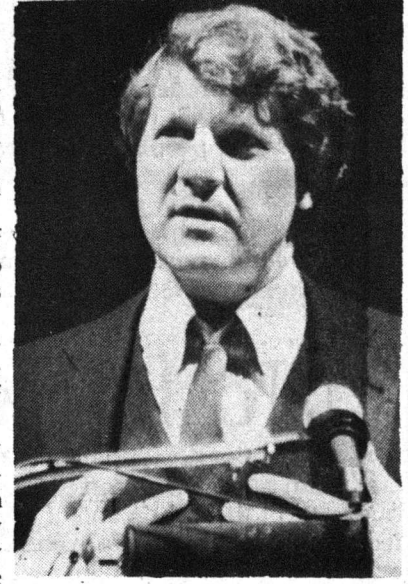
Axworthy was heckled and harassed by a segment of the 150 person audience, especially when he defended the government's use of closure on the constitution debate.

"It was not a closure of debate, but a transfer of debate to committee," he said. "There was no gag on debate."

He also accused the Conservatives of rejecting "every single proposal to extend hours of debate."

"They haven't offered any alternatives, it's total obstruction," said Axworthy. "When you're dealing with parliamentary obstruction, it's the responsibility of the government to take the lead."

The constitutional debate is, according to Axworthy, slipping into a rhetorical war damaging to the entire country.



Lloyd Axworthy

"No one regrets more than I do the kind of romantic warfare continued on page 7

photo Peter Michalyszyn

Liberal is a blast

WINNIPEG (CUP)

Westerners are reacting violently to the Liberals' constitution plans.

When Employment and Immigration Minister Lloyd Axworthy spoke on the subject at the University of Manitoba this week, bomb threats came pouring in.

While Axworthy was hustled off stage when campus police began receiving the threats, the large crowd of students who filled the area to listen to the speech were allowed to remain in the immediate vicinity of the location where the bomb was supposed to explode. Those in attendance

were not even told of the possible threat to their safety.

Two calls were made to campus police warning of the imminent explosion. Both calls were made by the same person.

The caller claimed he was from an organization called the Western Alliance Group against Pierre Trudeau (WAGAPT).

Axworthy was notified of the threat (in mid-speech) by Students' Council President Jim Egan. Egan told the audience Axworthy had received an "important phone call". Axworthy and company then left the stage.

An officer of the Winnipeg Police Department said he had never heard of WAGAPT. He added, however, that if the group was of any consequence all information on them would be contained in a file with the RCMP Subversives Unit, and as such would have to remain completely confidential.

University officials declined comment on why the area was not evacuated after the bomb threat. In the end, no bomb was found.

In an unrelated incident, a Molotov cocktail was tossed through the window of Axworthy's Winnipeg constituency office Saturday night.

Student council bans skin mags Porn on the rack

OTTAWA (CUP)- A battle of opinions is raging at the University of Ottawa over the sale of pornographic magazines in the campus store.

On October 17 store manager Leonard Hogg was ordered to remove all "pornographic" magazines from the shelves by council finance commissioner Daniel Leclair, who oversees the store's operations.

Hogg initially complied and removed *Playgirl*, *Playboy*, *Penhouse* and other magazines from the store. He later called the removal "hypocritical" and restocked the shelves.

Hogg said there is sexist content in many magazines and asked, "How many more innocent ones will I be asked to remove?"

Leclair said the magazines were "explicitly sexual." He said promoting the magazines by selling them was "not in keeping with the nature of the SFUO (Student Council)."

"We do not want to ban these magazines throughout the world, but we do not want to promote them," he said.

The saga continued throughout the weekend. Hogg said council commissioner Linda

Cardinal entered the store at one point and cleared the shelves. Hogg said she stopped when he threatened to call campus security.

Hogg had threatened to resign if the magazines were removed.

The student council at Carleton University is also attempting to ban the sale of skin magazines in their campus store. Leclair said he was not aware of this move.

BAZ



by Skeet

bouquets and brickbats

by Deacon Greese

A Guide to the Best and Worst on Campus

Best Coffee on Campus: Turkish at Incredible Edibles. The only coffee made without Edmonton tap water (this month's flavor: rust).

Worst Coffee on Campus: Italian at Java Jive. Waddaya mean it's supposed to taste that way?

Ugliest Classrooms: V Wing. Salmonella pink walls, leftover lunches turning green, and brown air (don't ask!).

Plushest Classrooms: Law Building. Too good for future ambulance chasers and corporate pimps.

Best Looking Student Executive: Jan Byer. By God, he's cute.

Least Attractive Student Executive: Four-way tie.

Professor of the Week: H. R. Monica of the Department of Music who tried to tune his car with pitch pipes.

With an ear to the ground and a finger up his nose, Deacon Greese roams the U of A looking for the tops and the pits of University life. If you can draw a picture of this or would just like to send in your own suggestions, write to the Gateway.