

# How to get the "Best" of the SU

by Wes Oginski

The Bert Best versus the U of A Students' Union lawsuit will soon enter its final round.

A court date has been set for sometime in September of this year according to Elise Gaudet, SU v.p. finance and administration. A second date has also been set in case the hearing takes more than a single sitting.

Bert Best was the Business Manager who was fired by Students' Council last March, after the \$300,000 deficit was uncovered. In that same month, Best

filed a suit of wrongful dismissal against the SU.

The court will finally settle the year long dispute.

"Any evidence presented at the examination hearing (earlier last summer) can be presented at the court," she says, but any extra evidence may not.

The SU attempted to settle Best's case out of court last summer, Gaudet says. Best refused the settlement.

"We gave our lawyers a settlement offer to Bert (through the court) which will be held in trust until the case is settled," she

says. Until that time, the settlement will also collect interest.

Instead, Best is asking for the money from the remainder of his contract and pension benefits. He was dismissed in the first year of a three year contract.

Gaudet estimates that the remainder of Best's contract would give him \$150,000. If he wins he will receive the difference between what his current contract would give him and what the SU contract would total from the date of dismissal to the expiration of the SU contract, she says.

Overall, the SU is not certain of their standing, nor how much the court case will cost them, according to Gaudet.

"I believe there will be an equitable settlement," she says.

Gaudet confirms that the last Business Manager, George Ivanisko, has indicated he will soon file suit against the SU for damages. Ivanisko was dismissed by Students' Council this January for insubordination.



Bert Best, former SU Business Manager

## The wrong mix exists for foreign students

The present hodge-podge of policies regarding foreign students does not serve well the interests of the students themselves, their host institutions, the various governments, nor, in the end, education.

So concludes *The Right Mix*, published this month by the Canadian Bureau for International Education (CBIE).

*The Right Mix* is the report of the Commission on Foreign Student Policy convened and sponsored by CBIE. The Commission was composed of twelve representatives from a variety of non-governmental Canadian organizations involved in international education, including the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada and the Association of Canadian Community Colleges.

The Commission's report looks at the history and present context of foreign students in Canada, and suggests a framework for the future development of institutional and governmental policies. It places the primary responsibility for foreign student policy on educational institutions, but addresses its moral and practical arguments and recommendations to non-governmental agencies and governments as well.

*The Right Mix* demonstrates how readily a policy vacuum in the foreign student area accommodates racism, particularly in times of economic difficulty. It denounces differential tuition fees, which discriminate against

those whom we profess to be most anxious to help: students from the poorest backgrounds and the least developed countries.

It proposed that institutions and governments which consider it necessary to limit foreign student enrollment do so not by imposing prohibitive surcharges, but through a program combining regional quotas and scholarships to ensure access for student from less developed countries.

Above all, the report asserts, Canadians must recognize their responsibilities toward foreign students, who are not only the future leaders of their countries, but also constitute a valuable resource for Canadian educational institutions and the communities around them.

## Students' move idealistic?

(RNR/CUP) — According to an American survey, today's college students are more concerned with ideas and less interested in partying than those of the 1960s.

The University of Maryland recently compared a 1979 survey of its students with one taken a decade earlier, and found more than a third of the 1979 students were "academic" types, interested mainly in ideas, and not necessarily going to college just to land a good job.

That's a much higher figure than the 1969 survey, when only about 20 per cent of the students placed themselves in the "academic" category.

And, although 1969 is remembered as a time of campus

ferment, 18 per cent of the men and 33 per cent of the women in school that year said they were there for the social life, and not particularly interested in studying. A decade later, only 8 per cent for both men and women felt that way.

But one campus stereotype apparently is valid: more students are in school in hopes of finding a good job. In 1979, 43 per cent said they were mainly interested in job training, compared to only 35 per cent in 1969.

# Olivia Butti's Diary

February 9

Dear Diary:

I knew it, I just knew it. I can't take two steps out of this city before city council sticks a knife in my back. Sometimes I think they're deliberately trying to run this city into the ground, just to spite me. Well, diary, they're not going to get away with it.

How deceitful, how undemocratic of them to vote on a new civic administration building while I'm on a well-earned vacation and can't answer back. They even passed the vote 9-2 just to rub it in. What is this, communist Russia where they wait until the opposition is out of town before they steal the peasants' farms?

Well they're just going to have to vote again, that's all there is to it. I've given them notice of motion, and I don't care what Alderman Hayter thinks.

In fact, Diary, I'm sure that it's Alderman Hayter who's behind all this trouble. While I was gone he convinced all the other aldermen to change their minds about the Tegler Building. How can they destroy such a wonderful old building? Why I remember when I was a little girl and Gido would take me to Zellers lunch counter and... well, anyway, it's certainly worth the 10 or 75 million it would cost to preserve such an important part of our history.

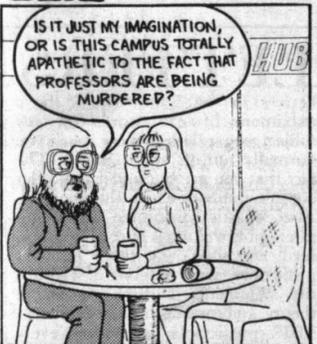
When those turncoat aldermen voted 9-3 to toss away part of Edmonton's golden days I was enraged. I was going to tell Mayor Purvis that the whole thing was unfair, that council had

voted once and had no right to change its decision but he wasn't there. Instead I saw that little URGE puppet Hewes grinning at me (and worst of all, diary, she was wearing that horrible blue dress with the ruffles. I swear if she ever wears it again I'm going to pass a by-law against it.) How dare Mayor Purvis miss an important City Council meeting? What is he doing galivanting in some foreign country? Where are his priorities?

Hayter got me that time, but I evened the score. He wanted me to introduce one of those cheap, vote-getting, little-people motions of his. He would have the provincial government protect loud, messy tenants from being rightfully evicted, even if the landlord can find more civilized tenants who pay up on time and don't whine about entirely necessary rent increases. Well, I told him that I was a landlord, and that voting to allow discussion of landlords would be conflict of interest. That meant June Cavanaugh couldn't vote either. Then dear Ed Leger said he was his wife's tenant and couldn't vote either. Oh, diary, you should have heard Hayter and Hewes scream about that one; those liberals have no sense of humour. Anyway, because Ed wouldn't vote, Hayter couldn't get enough votes to wave notice of motion. I'll have to bake Ed some more cookies.

Still, it's been a lousy day and it will probably take months before I get City Council back in line again. You know, diary, I really don't think these people appreciate me.

BAZ



SKEET at Midway

