

EDITORIAL

Rah, rah, rap CFS

Students who voted 'yes' in Friday's referendum at the University of Alberta virtually saved the Canadian Federation of Students from collapse.

With each student forking out four bucks, the U of A could potentially pump \$84,000 into the national student organization in 1984-85. This is based on an enrollment projection of 21,000 full-time undergraduates.

Another \$2,560 could be added to the CFS pot, based on an expected 3,200 part-time U of A undergraduates putting in eighty cents each.

All in all, it's a pretty expensive morale booster.

The U of A will likely account for twenty per cent of the total revenues coming from membership fees. Financially, our campus will hold an unhealthy and unenviable amount of power. Our withdrawal would cause financial chaos.

Indeed, CFS needs the financial support of institutions like UBC, McGill, and the University of Toronto to make it truly national. Unfortunately, the U of T rejected CFS last spring with a 61 per cent 'no' response. At St. Mary's University in Halifax, students voted two to one to pull out. St. Mary's was the first campus to join CFS.

And now the Nova Scotia College of Art and Design and Dalhousie University are considering pulling out.

As for UBC and McGill, UBC might join, but McGill and other Quebec institutions — notably the University of Montreal — are decidedly longshots for CFS referenda strategists.

Friday's U of A results will not be meaningful unless there is a concerted effort within CFS to get student input. While I support the concept of CFS, it has a long way to go before it proves itself to be a viable force.

How about a comparison here with another national student organization? Well, Canadian University Press (CUP) at least gives the impression of being a national concern. CUP has 54 full members, including McGill, UBC, and the University of Toronto.

The Gateway pays \$12,555 in membership fees, or 5.58 per cent of total CUP membership fee revenues of \$225,000. And still, the Gateway arguably pays more than it should.

CFS currently has a \$47,000 debt. And you shouldn't be too surprised if it incurs another deficit in 1983-84. Half of CFS is made up of the infamous prospective members, who only pay 5 per cent of normal membership fees. Thus the U of A could be merely prolonging CFS's life. Maybe we should have let CFS die.

Student papers often share the same attitudes as student politicians. (Witness the NUS and CUP boosterism of the 1970s). The 1983-84 CUP President Gerry Porter, however, says CFS will get critical coverage and will not get special national treatment like NUS received.

There's an image problem here, wouldn't you say?

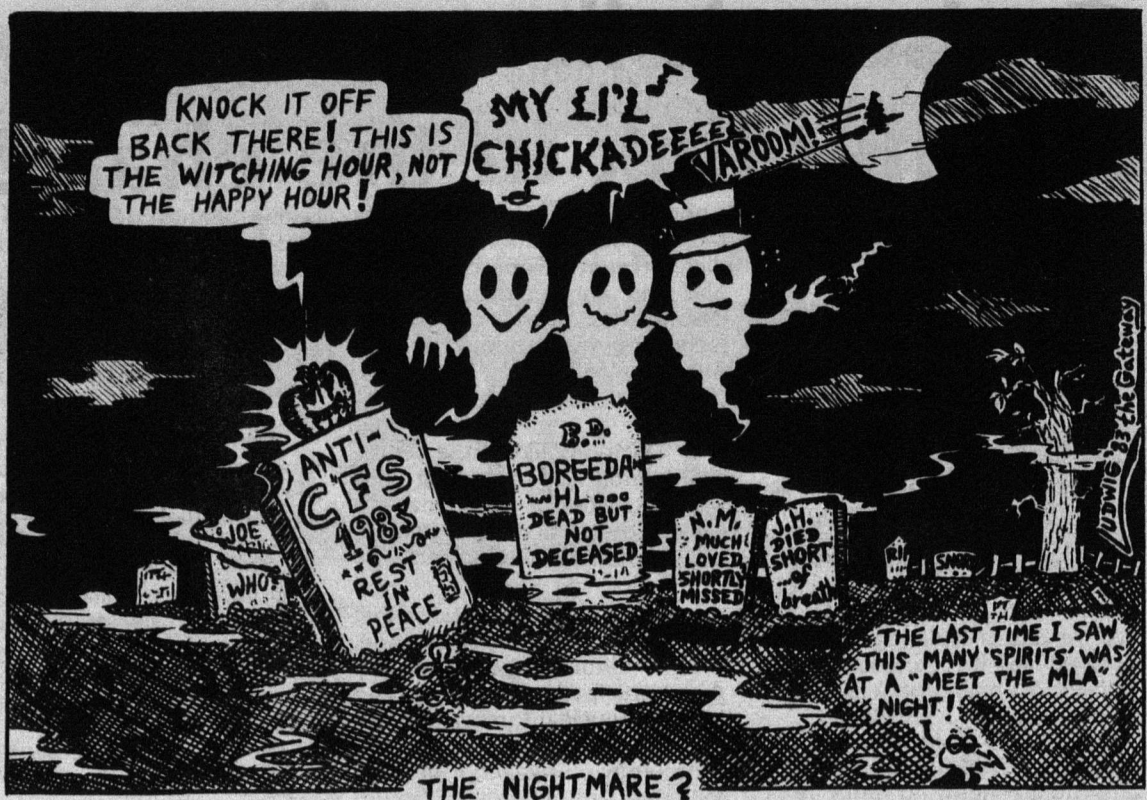
Maybe CFS will be a success. Or maybe it'll become just another dead acronym like CUS and NUS.

If CFS ever gains nationwide acceptance the U of A can claim credit for starting the Movement. But if CFS takes a nosedive, then the U of T along with other hold-outs and 'prospective pull-outs' will get the last laugh at those conservative Alberta students coughing up \$4.00.

The U of A would then only be remembered for being sucked into a financially mismanaged non-entity. That's quite the horror-story interpretation.

It's a nightmare that should serve to wake up CFS Alberta representatives and get them to push for a closely-monitored budget, not to mention sensible and realistic policy.

Brent Jang



Quick kiddies, whip out your Secret Gateway decoder and figure out this week's Managing Editor's Supersecret message: brauwnd THIS pasod en THURSDAY asdlk SPECIAL COMICS asdoineg ISSUE oinasdf READ IT aslkddnr OR ELSE anlksne I'LL STOMP YOU GOOD!

Now buzz - off I've got work to do!

Gilbert

« LETTERS TO THE EDITOR »

CFS: thank you!

As the CFS referendum campaign draws to a close I would like to take this opportunity to express my sincere appreciation to those students involved in the 'YES' campaign. These students who volunteered their time and effort are to be congratulated for a job well done.

Robert Lunney
Campaign Manager
Business III

Anti-Warren

RE: Opheim, Warren, Taking Exception to.

First, I wish Master Opheim would get his facts straight about Nazi policies. According to them, Jews and other Untermenschen were fit only to be robbed of everything of value to the Nazi State, and then put to death. On the other hand, it was the solemn duty of every German woman of true Aryan descent to bear all the children she could for the greater size and glory of the State. The first I find "anti-life" in a far wider sense than his use of the term; how does he propose to evaluate the second?

Next, I find the current pro/anti-life and pro/anti-choice labelling semantically insufficient. The first pair fails to indicate what aspect of life is being considered, let alone whose. The second obscures the real dispute over who gets to do the choosing. Politically, the issue appears divided between those who wish people to be controlled and those who have no such desire. Therefore, since politics is being made of an ethical issue anyway, I propose the logical tags of "controllist" and "autarchist" to replace the current name-slinging.

Finally, what is Master Opheim so afraid of? Since he is so virulently opposed to abortion, obviously he shouldn't be forced to have one. But I fail to see how another's holding and acting upon the opposite view is so detrimental to him that he is justified in forcing his opinion upon his neighbour. Granted that abortion is a wrong answer, who is he to decide for the people at risk whether or not the other alternatives are also wrong?

Kathleen Moore
Business III

P.S. As for a decision to have sex being equivalent to a decision to procreate, birth control methods were invented specifically to eliminate that particular side effect of sex.

Pro-Warren

I am obliged to respond to Andrea Kohl's reaction to my anti-abortion letter.

The Gateway may have unintentionally misled you, Andrea, regarding the gist of my letter, for it was they who chose the title "A Matter of Choice?", not I. Even so, it would have been clear that my point was that one's life begins at conception and should be respected until natural death. I referred to "choice" only in one short paragraph regarding the anti-lifers' desire to be called "pro-choice" and how such a label should be applied. However, in your blunder, you bring up a few points to which I also wish to reply.

For example, you say that abortion is an "increasingly complex issue." Well, babies have been made the same way for quite some time now, and in an abortion the result is also the same, i.e. an unborn person's death. The only "increasingly complex" aspect is whether a woman's feeble excuse is valid enough for a hospital to become a slaughter-house.

Secondly, you say each person has the right of choice. I have already stated that an unborn child is a person. Therefore they also have this right. He/she is prevented from making a choice if he/she is murdered.

Lastly, I resent your implication that a woman should have the right to choose abortion even if the child's father objects. The child is equally of both. I believe you get my drift.

As a footnote to my previous letter, in China a child is credited as being one year of age at birth. Ponder this.

Warren Opheim
Arts II

P.S. Frankly, I thought the anti-lifers would be represented in the Oct. 20 Gateway. I know they exist. I've seen them in SUB wearing silly grins as they distribute information on how to kill. I want to see their idiotic opinions in print in the Gateway. In addition, I want to see the opinions of those in favor of life so that I may be further enlightened.

Nuke the coat hangers

A gun? A coat hanger? Or a nuclear weapon? What's the difference? They all obliterate human lives.

Why not make retroactive abortions available to "pro-choicers"? It would give them another alternative in avoiding an unwanted life.

Bill Dahmer
Aggie

CFS: Ramifications

The policies of the CFS published in the October 20 Gateway are, generally, fine and noble objectives. I agree, as I'm sure many students do, that all organizations, even gays, have the right to organize and meet publicly as long as no one else's rights are violated. I support nuclear disarmament,

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The Gilbertologists tied to the Great Space Ark tossing Oreo cookies in the hold and gallons of bourbon into the water coolers. Rose Villaflore manned the radio, avoiding disco at all costs, as Christine Koch, Georgeann McInerney and Nate LaRoi refused to dance (but to be honest, Bernard Poitras and Frank Bevacqua didn't give a hot damn). Robert A. Hackett, Neal Watson, and John Algard stoked the boilers, which Margaret Baer and Brenda Waddle thought was strange since the ship was atomic powered, as Ludwig pried off the ceramic heat shields to work on his tan. Jordan Peterson was left clinging to the outside of the bloody thing.

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