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No evidence for God's existence claims Objectivist philosopher Wake

By JAMES SEMAK

God is not dead, he just never existed.

That was the central thrust of philosophy student Susan Dawn Wake's lecture "In Defense of Atheism." Wake, speaking Tuesday, October 16 for the Students of Objectivism, discussed briefly why God cannot be believed to exist.

Wake explained at the beginning of the lecture that atheism is a cornerstone of the Objectivist philosophy. Objectivism, developed by philosopher and novelist Ayn Rand, deals with concepts in a logical, sys-

tematic format. The objectivists depend on concrete evidence to prove philosophical theories denying abstract, unverifiable concepts, Wake said.

Wake's central argument was that there is no material evidence for God's existence, that religions rely on faith to give their doctrines validity.

Wake explained that Theists believe that God created the universe, a feat she says is impossible. Wake argued that an entity must have space in order to exist, but when God was creating the Universe there was no space because there was

no Universe. The Universe had to come first, then God.

Wake discussed the Theist's viewpoint that without God and Religion there is no sense of morality. Dawn said this cannot be so since it hasn't been proven that God exists, and that a "supposed" entity cannot dictate morality. Dawn further emphasized that religion isn't the only system which promotes morality.

Wake ended her lecture with three distinct conclusions: Religion relies upon faith only to sustain its validity; God cannot exist because it is said He is infinite, and to exist, something must be specific.

Other Campuses

By ADAM BRYANT

Kaos in Kalamazoo

Americans are often described as people who like to do things on a grand scale. Though this is an unfair generalization, it is certainly true of their street parties.

Witness the city of Kalamazoo, Michigan where students from the University of Western Michigan gather every year for a massive street party to mark the beginning of the school term. This past fall, 5,000 students attended the party and rang up some truly newsworthy statistics.

The city spent \$26,000 on police coverage alone, and spent even more on the subsequent clean-up. 59 arrests were made and during the party the police had to fire tear gas at a group who refused to leave the area. All this occurred despite the yearly efforts of city officials and school administrators to concoct new methods of dealing with the party goers.

—The Gazette

University of Western Ontario

Prairie politics

Last September two University of Alberta students decided they

wanted to have three members of the student union impeached. The students set up a booth on campus to collect signatures in support of their cause. Soon after, they were removed from their booth by the order of the students they were trying to impeach.

They had no permission from the university to set up that booth," said Gordon Stamp, council internal vice-president and the member who ordered security to remove the students.

When the students sought and received permission from the administration to set up the booth, Stamp told them they ought to "get booted out of university."

The three student union members are accused of "playing political games" and ignoring students' concerns.

—The Varsity
University of Toronto

Queen's rowdies

Ah, Queen's. Thou draweth much ink from my weary pen. For the third time this term, Queen's University in Kingston has achieved national news status.

Two weekends ago, Queen's had their Homecoming celebrations. After the dust had settled at a downtown street party, 30 peo-

ple had been charged with various offences and five students had been threatened with expulsion.

Crowds of up to 1,000 students apparently blocked off a section of University Avenue and proceeded to blare music from several house porches, jump on cars, litter the area with beer bottles, explode strings of firecrackers and verbally abuse the police who were on hand. Cost of the cleanup and extra policing is estimated at \$1,500, and the Alma Mater Society of Queen's is expected to foot the bill.

The party coincidentally followed on the heels of a recent Alma Mater Society meeting in which ways of reducing rowdiness and improving Queen's public image were discussed.

Kingston alderman Helen Cooper says she isn't sure Queen's can handle the problem.

Students "claim they should and can police themselves, but I don't know if it's true or not," Cooper said, adding that she will discuss the weekend party at the next meeting of city council.

The initial incidents occurred during Queen's orientation festivities, in which 25 people were taken to hospital during the engineering faculty's annual Grease Pole event. The second incident occurred during the Queen's-McGill football game in Montreal, after which it was estimated that Queen's students had done \$6,000 worth of damage to the stadium and tour buses.

—Toronto Star

