

SU elections voided due to unfair practices

by Anne Stephen

The Discipline, Interpretation and Enforcement (DIE) Board suggested February 17 that the Student Union elections be overturned as a result of unfair election practices by the Walker Slate.

The infringement in question concerned the stuffing of the Lister Hall mailboxes with election pamphlets by Walker supporters.

But the Chairman of the Board, Hal Zalmanowitz, has requested the other board members to reconsider. The final decision will be made on Wednesday March 3.

Originally a motion was proposed to overturn only the Presidential position, but it was defeated 3 to 2. This motion was changed to overturn all elected positions and passed 3 to 2.

This decision falls under the jurisdiction

of bylaw 300, sections 27 and 28. Section 27 states: "any candidate who is found guilty of unfair electioneering practices which would prejudice unfairly the results of an election in his favour, shall be disqualified in addition to being subject to the penalties specified in bylaw 3500, the Discipline, Interpretation and Enforcement Board bylaw."

Section 28, part 1 states: "If there is found to have been a contravention of this bylaw or of unfair electioneering practices, such that the results of an election could not reasonably be deemed to indicate actual preference of the electors, that election, or part thereof, subject to the contravention, may be declared void by: (a) the Returning Officer summarily, or (b) the Discipline, Interpretation and Enforcement Board upon

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People on welfare...

the Gateway

TUESDAY, MARCH 2, 1982

...should look out for trees.

Mikey

Classes cancelled...

University gives support to protest

by Greg Harris

General Faculties Council (GFC) voted yesterday to cancel classes from 12:30 to 3:30 p.m. on Thursday, March 11 so that students and staff may march to the provincial legislature to protest cutbacks and underfunding.

The march will be the highlight of Alberta's provincial activities during the National Week of Student Action, March 8-12, organized by the Canadian Federation of Students (CFS).

Student representatives were surprised and pleased with the GFC endorsement - an endorsement which carried 41 to 27 after an hour long debate.

"This decision reflects the concern the entire university community feels about problems being addressed by the march. It is an endorsement, by a cross-section of university leaders, of the National Week of Action," said SU Vice-president external Lisa Walter in a prepared statement following the meeting.

University president Myer Horowitz, also Chairperson of GFC, said after the meeting that he would not march with students, as did his predecessor, Dr. Harry Gunning, in 1978.

"I didn't express my personal views at the meeting and I don't think it's right for me to do so now," said Horowitz, and would not comment further.

Most GFC members supported in principal the idea of protesting government underfunding; however, some were concerned about the effectiveness of such a demonstration.

"It's my considered judgment that the fact that we now have to wait until the estimates are tabled in the legislature to find out what our grants are going to be is the direct result of an attempt by the provincial government to, in effect, punish us for marching on the legislature as we did (in 1978)" said Dr. Walter Worth, Dean of Education.

Dr. R.S. Smith, Dean of Business Administration and Commerce criticized the timing of the march: "It's quite true that legislators are human beings and would sometimes like to respond to expressed needs. In this case there is going to be absolutely no chance for the government to give its response to the concerns expressed on the 11th of March (since the provincial budget will be announced on the 17th)."

Dr. Sitwell of the Faculty of Science responded to Worth's charges by arguing that the results could be worse should the university decide not to demonstrate.

"If we are perceived to have been

punished in '78 for sticking up for our rights in a particular way, and if at this time after a well publicized campaign by the students beginning in last November we fail to do so, I think that we teach the government a very clear lesson, and that is that we're a pet poodle that has been shown not to bite its master's hand," said Sitwell.

Student representatives Liz Lunney, SU vp academic and Phil Soper, SU president, strongly urged GFC support for the march.

"This is a long term event in terms of goals. If it were a short term effort to influence the budget decision then we would have to march every year... we're attempting to influence the (federal-provincial fiscal transfer) renegotiations that are taking place, and also the direction of education in the 1980's," said Lunney.

"This action is not aimed at making the government mad," said Soper, "but at getting the message across to the public, the federal government, and the provincial government... the simple fact remains that good feelings, if they do exist now, have not translated into our much needed resources."

The CFS-Federation of Alberta Students (FAS), and Anti-Cutbacks Team (ACT) sponsored march will begin with a rally at the south end of HUB at 12:45 on Thursday, March 11.

Speakers at the legislature will include either Peter Lougheed, or Advanced Education and Manpower Minister Jim Horsman; from the federal side students will hear either Secretary of State Gerald Regan, or Mr. Regan's secretary.

Most areas of the country have plans to bring attention to student issues during the National Week of Action. The B.C. Students Federation will have a rally in Victoria on March 11 and one in Vancouver on March 12. Saskatchewan students are holding forums and perhaps a provincial lobby day. Students in Manitoba will be holding a cutbacks conference with representatives from other groups being affected by cutbacks, and the Ontario Federation of Students has announced a provincial boycott of classes for March 11.

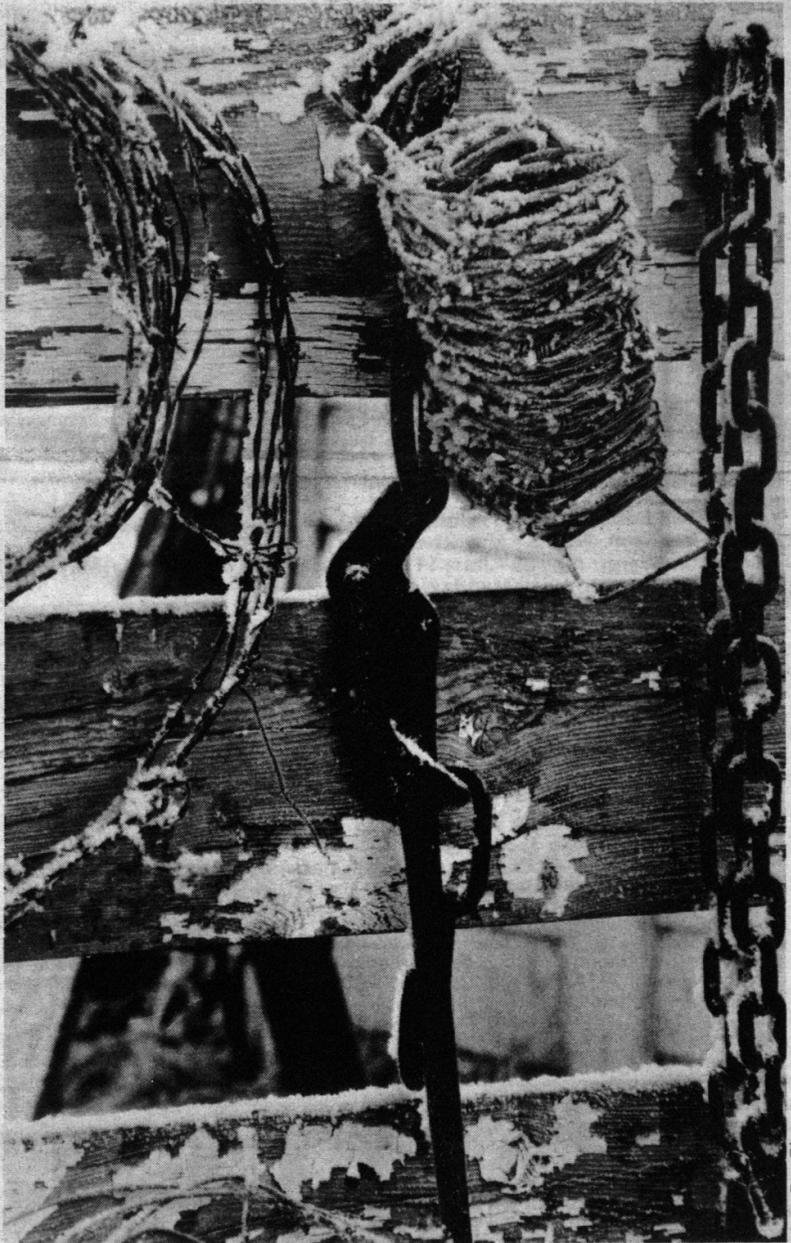


Photo Ray Giguere

We are everywhere in chains...

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