



editorial

Doing it the first time

First year students and first year on this campus students get their first chance in February. Everyone else gets another chance in February. Some will do it for the first time regardless of previous chances; some may even try to do it twice, who knows?

Nevertheless, come February 14, students will choose the 1975-76 president and vice-presidents of the Students' Union. Anyone might tell you it's important to vote: in actual fact, it is more important for everyone who's never voted before (like first year students) to vote in this election. This rationale is easily explained. First year students are likely to be here longer than second and third year students. They will have to live with the price increases, inflation, and politicians for three more years. Their only chance to improve their lot is to participate in the election of the officials who will run the services and programs for the Students' Union.

Previous election turn-outs have been described as dismal to poor. With 19,000 eligible voters, fewer than 2,000 votes have been cast. This can only mean that either the students weren't aware of the election, or that they weren't aware of the consequences of electing student representatives. These consequences usually take the form of price increases to students for services provided, or the reduction of services provided, or the outright cancellation of services previously provided.

If you exercise your vote it doesn't necessarily mean these consequences will not occur; it does mean you can demand changes be made to meet your approval, acting with the knowledge that you supported them and you demand satisfaction. When the campaigners make their pitch, ask them questions and evaluate their promises. They are at your mercy and are powerless without your mandate. Use your vote carefully, but please use it. Your future depends on it.

Bernie Fritze

election forum

Regarding the Election Forum column to be used by candidates in the up-coming elections, Returning Officer Bruce Ney informed Gateway January 28 that submissions should be published on February 6 and February 11 only. All interested candidates should submit their copy, by appropriate deadline, to Harold Kuckertz, acting editor-in-chief.

Rebuttals to political opinions expressed will be allowed on February 13 but candidates are warned not to solicit votes outright. (eg. Vote for me because...).

Editor-elect Bernie Fritze will serve as Arts Editor for the duration of the election campaign, effective January 28, 1975.



letters

Monte Carlo

With respect to Tuesday's BACUS story, I would like to make corrections. I stated Monte Carlo will be a great success *despite* the lack of adequate funding. BACUS will continue its program to provide activities directed to the student population. I feel that BACUS is providing a service the Student Council cannot or does not provide and therefore the allotment of funds to BACUS should be based on these justifications. These beneficial student activities are open to all students on campus.

Another occurrence of concern with respect to Monte Carlo 75 was the termination of our promotional entertainment in the CAB Cafeteria on Tuesday. The pleasant and appealing folk music was an advertising campaign designed to attract students. Mr. Gault, assistant registrar (timetabling), and Mr. Rolheiser, Building Superintendent of CAB demanded the curtailment of the entertainment. Turning the volume down on the PA system was not acceptable. This undiplomatic discrimination has created great concern among informed students. It appears both men have the authority to stop the entertainment, but cannot authorize it in the building. It seems that authority in the Administration is operating on a

one way street, and they have the right of way.

Monte Carlo 75 is operated on the basis that profits will go to charity. I am concerned that this integral element of campus activity which has favorably attracted the citizens of Edmonton does not receive equal consideration as other student activities do. I hope in the future the University will provide defining guidelines concerning related situations, and therefore prevent any discriminatory practices against future charitable activities.

Eric Darichuk
Business Administration and
Commerce Undergraduate
Society

Sellout

Further to your editorial of January 28, may I first inform you that the decision involved was made by the Services Policy Board, not the Services Advisory Committee, which was the SPB's previous name.

I and my colleagues on the Services Policy Board deliberated the recommendation to hold Engineering 200 classes in the SUB Theatre, but found that no reason could be accepted for the proposal.

First, the instructor of this course refused to reschedule his class to allow it to occupy existing facilities better

equipped for this purpose.

Second, SUB Theatre is just that: a facility for students that was designed for the preservation of entertainment in the form of movies and plays and so on. The S.P.B. was concerned with the potential damage to the theatre and the congestion that would be caused by such a large number of students.

For these and related reasons, it was the decision of the S.P.B. that no cause could be given to support the recommendation. Consequently it was defeated.

The STUDENT Council, however, decided to ignore this decision as you correctly pointed out. Joe McGhie's rationale was that because the S.U. was in debt to the University that council was obligated to allow this request. This, however is in direct contradiction to his statement at the S.P.B. meeting at which he declared he had no personal stand on the issue.

V.P. Services Tony Melnechuk opposed this recommendation both at the S.P.B. meeting and later at Council.

S.P.B. exists, as do other advisory boards and committees, solely to consider the needs of students. This decision suggests that Council has ignored its duty to safeguard the best interests of students, and in fact has allowed outside pressure to affect its.

Ruby Remenda
Services Policy Board

Art Varku.

CAMPUS
REVOLUTIONARY

by GERRI
+ JON
RASMUSSEN

