

Criticizing the Platforms

Let's now assess the candidates arguments.

First, all candidates determine that the problems are apathy, financial incompetency, poor communication, insufficient use of campus media (Cadre, CSUR), student-faculty gap, gap between SU executive and committee heads. And they are right. However, in identifying the symptoms, they have neglected the disease -- Capitalism! Furthermore, but consistent with their shallow insight -- they all propose immediate solutions to the immediate problems. Granted they can see poor usage of funds and propose to clamp down on this; but they must fail because to concentrate on the immediate situation is to neglect the real problem -- which is the values, aims, beliefs, etc, which give rise to these problems in the first place. Until they identify the true source of the problems they will be left with "hand-aid" proposals and, of course, will remain in the dark and "in the red".

They all see apathy as a problem -- and all propose to deal with it. Again they fail to see that you cannot "deal" with apathy in a community as representatives. Apathy is for each to work out for himself -- no committee in the world can overcome my apathy. The candidates (like everyone else) see apathy as a problem --

but do not see it as a spiritual (not in the religious sense) problem of our age and, thus, do not realize that you cannot legislate away the problem.

No candidate has noticed the relationship between apathy and incompetent expenditure. Disinterested & alienated students have failed to appreciate (naturally) the significance of the SU and the treasury and, as a result, treated these as infinite sources of money. Apathy is integrally tied to poor expenditure. Students who don't care, will abuse the Student Union. It's why they don't care that should be the object of pursuit.

The candidates for (presidency) are not the most impressive, with the exception of Barbara Stevenson. Gordon Campbell can easily identify the problems (at the superficial level) but gives you the impression that he has no ability to deal with the responsibilities these problems imply. He is incompetent in argument, uncertain, and too easily persuaded to assume a firm stand on an issue.

Bruce MacDonald also identifies the same problems everyone else does, but cannot put forth concrete alternatives -- he's a band-aider. Furthermore, he implies lack of tact and confidence in the sturdy, rigid means whereby he intends to smarten-up executive. Violence is the tool of the in-

competent. He gives you the impression he knows little or nothing about people -- examine his platform on the front page.

The third candidate -- Barbara Stevenson -- is by far, more secure, confident, experienced and intent than the others. Her performance on Senate is (as I can personally attest) of considerable quality. She gives you the impression she knows where she's going -- and that's what the SU needs. Brains are important but amount to nothing without character. Barb has, in my opinion, more strength of character than the other candidates. To be sure -- she has much to learn -- but she knows this. To know that you don't know is a mark of wisdom -- and wisdom is the medicine our SU could do with -- not just brains, force of personality, or rigidity, such as the others possess (and even then I overestimate them!).

Should Barb realize (as I think she does) that a full scale plan is not the answer (though important) but, rather, a person of resolute character who will meet each situation as it comes and endeavour to resolve it on the basis of a conscientious will -- she will no doubt do this campus a great service. Sometimes one must turn one's back on one's people in order to do justice by them.

Stan Dalton

Fun & Games at the Queens County



Girls! Want to help your government cut down their cost per prisoner ratio. Here's how!

We had one female prisoner in here last week. Guess how much it cost to keep her here?

She wouldn't pay a \$40. fine so the judge gave her 30 days. Out of the 30 days she would have to serve 20.

Now, when there is a female prisoner, a female matron must be on 24 hours a day. She has to be paid and fed as well as feeding the prisoner.

I feel that \$60. a day is a conservative estimate of what female prisoners cost to the department. Over 20 days, this comes to \$1200. dollars that it would cost. Plus the \$40. fine that the woman wouldn't pay!

Perhaps the department got wise to that woman's plot of cheating the government out of \$1240. because they let her out after only 12 days. Good thinking guys!!

We have two female prisoners now so the cost is almost cut in half. Imagine