

# Watering down the CFS

OTTAWA (CUP) The most controversial policies of the Canadian Federation of Students Policy Manual will likely fall off the books in November, says CFS Chair Tony Macerollo.

**Policies** advocating Canada's withdrawal from NATO and NORAD, opposing cruise missile testing, supporting the efforts of Chilean and El Salvadorian students, the Canadian Labour Congress, and gays and lesbians on campus and others were adopted in 1982 and must be reintroduced and passed by a two-thirds majority at the upcoming general meeting if they are to remain as official CFS policy.

"I don't think it's even going to be a debate," said Macerollo. "In order to debate these issues members would have had to serve due notice of policy motions and the deadline was last Friday. Even if there were a debate, I think it (the vote to reinstate the policies) would be close...real close."

Macerollo sees no reason for the national executive of CFS to generate support for the outgoing policies.

"The organization mir-

rors its members," he said. "Is there any reason for us to alter the image if its members don't change? I'm not sure it should," he said.

He said members were informed of the five-year sunset clause on the '82 policies at the Spring meeting, but no one has served notice of policy motions.

Macerollo said the policies has been a factor in the failure of CFS to attract some of the larger schools such as U of T, Western, and Queens.

"There are (objections to joining) that recur: the issue of weighted voting (whether larger schools should have more votes), the expense of joining, non-educational issues (in the CFS policy) and the feeling that education is a provincial responsibility."

Though those are the stated rationales, Macerollo thinks there are more fundamental reasons for some student councils' lack of interest in a national student lobby organization.

"There is a real inability to understand just how involved the federal government really is in education,"

said Macerollo.

This is Macerollo's second year as chair of CFS. He first became involved with the organization in 1984 when he was vice-president (education) on the student council of Ottawa's Carleton University. At that time, Macerollo was skeptical about CFS.

"That was the year debates on non-educational issues hit their peak. There were huge emotional debates about NATO and NORAD, El Salvador, Nicaragua, nuclear installations in Canada..." he said.

Though Macerollo says he was "very skeptical" at that time, he didn't start a campaign to pull Carleton out of the organization. "I felt Carleton had invested time and money in the organization and it was not up to me to say it had been a waste of money."

Though

Macerollo doesn't think the current membership will re-adopt the 1982 policies at the November meeting, he also doesn't think there will be as much objection to discussing those issues.

"In '84, people said 'we shouldn't discuss 'non-educational issues' they used that phrase. Now they realize that we can't have a constitutional provision that limits the kind of things you can represent your students on."

Macerollo divides his time between meeting with federal government representatives and drumming up support for the Federation on campuses across the country. In September and October he has visited close to 20 campuses in B.C., Ontario and Newfoundland.

Currently CFS has 57 member associations. Student unions can join or drop out of CFS only by hold-

ing campus-wide referenda to decide whether students will pay \$4 each to belong to the organization.

Referenda are upcoming at six campuses next month: Guelph, Wilfrid Laurier, Waterloo, Capilano College, Douglas College, and Malaspina College. The University of Ottawa served notice last week that it will hold a pull-out referendum in February.

The Federation has a budget of \$600,000 which covers the cost of maintaining a national office in Ottawa, two general meetings each year, campaign materials (pamphlets, posters) and staff travel. CFS employs nine full-time staff members: an elected chair, an executive officer, a researcher, an information officer, a financial coordinator, and four fieldworkers. Seven of the staff members are unionized.

## HIT AND RUN

Hit and Run

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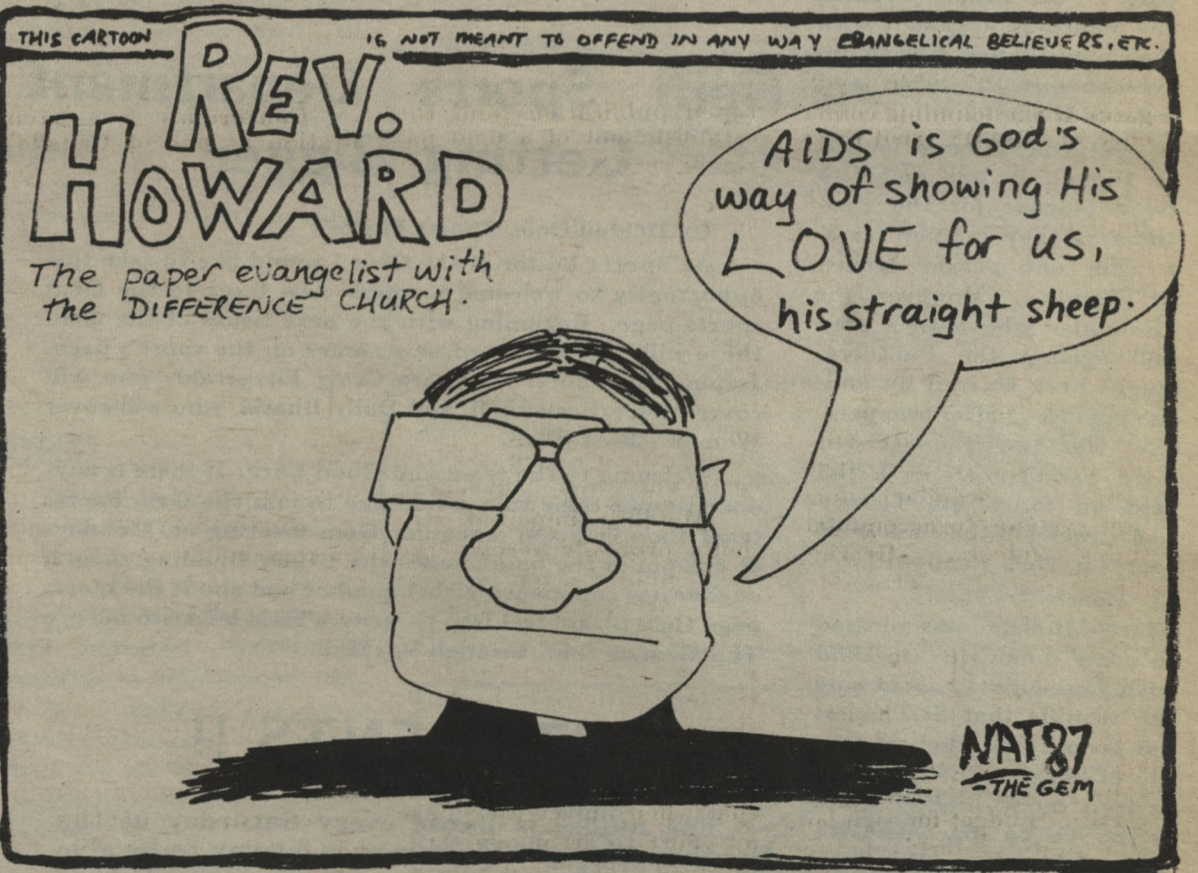
Reward \$ 200

Where: UPEI Parking Lot A

When: Friday, October 16/87 between 8:30am - 10:30am.

Vehicle: White Chrysler-Cordoba 1978  
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Anyone having information regarding this accident please telephone 676-2714. Thank you.



## A SHORT FARCE From the Victorian Era

"BOX AND COX" will be performed in the library student lounge (The Pit) on Friday, November 27, 2 weeks before exams.

There are 3 part- 2 men and 1 women. Auditions for these parts will take place in The Pit 4-6 pm Friday Nov. 6th or contact the director Terry Pratt Dept. of English 566-0677.



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