

rules of a referendum in such essential areas as the question and what constitutes a majority (no longer 50% which is not unusual if one looks at other majorities attained for secession in the rest of the world). By doing this, he has alienated his members from outside of Quebec while playing Brian Mulroney's dangerous game of trying to woo nationalist leaning voters in La Belle Province. This alienation has taken the form of an actual rift where Tories, mostly from the Maritimes, have sided with the Liberals in this popular endgame Chretien is playing. Things reached an apex recently when popular Newfoundland Tory MP Charlie Powers resigned his seat. Rumours swirled that the Liberals knew about it before the Tories. The Tory Fisheries Critic is alleged to have been promised a cushy job in the private sector. Why the deal?? My guess is that Powers came on board the Tory ship to serve under Jean Charest. He lost his political appetite to serve when Clark took over. The last string was probably the realization he would have a hard time keeping his seat in the next election (which means no federal pension) with Brian Tobin lending his provincial party to the Federal party he hopes to lead one day (nothing like picking up political IOU's). One way or another, things are slowly unravelling on the right which could mean only one thing.... Jean Chretien for another term.

GONZO OUT

WHY VET STUDENTS ARE SNOOTY

by Jill Hendsbee

I have vowed to write news from the AVC this term that is a little meatier than last term. This is a topic I have been waiting to comment on for some time now.

It became apparent to me very quickly after my admission to the AVC how the majority of the campus felt about vet students. In short, we are stuck up snobs. Of course, when I first became aware of this opinion, I wanted to dispute it; to stand up for myself and tell everyone who would listen that it wasn't true. I certainly understand where an idea like this could originate. We don't seem to socialize with anyone other than ourselves. This is more or less the case, but has anyone ever thought about why? Many jump to the conclusion that it's simply because we believe ourselves too good to bother with anyone else, that we consider ourselves an elite crowd. I suggest instead that the real reason is this- we come here from many different provinces and states, often not knowing anyone else here. (This in contrast to the 80% of UPEI students who come from the Island). Very few choose to live in residence as many are entering

their 4th, 5th or greater year of university and have had their fill of residence life. We are introduced to ONE building on campus, which we almost never leave for academic purposes. It's practically like elementary school, everyone has their own desk and we stay in the same room for most of the day. We don't get to mix with a different group of people each class, like many programs on campus. So bottom line, our opportunities to meet people other than our classmates at AVC are limited. These are the major reasons I cite for our seemingly snooty behavior.

I clung to these as the sole explanation for our reputation for a long time, but I was naive. I'm in my third year now, and I have witnessed incidents that made me realize some people's feelings were not as unfounded as I thought. For example, the day that a classmate asked a roomful of students working on papers at the AVC computer lab to leave because some AVC students wanted to use the computers and they had priority. Now, there is a sign to that effect hanging in the big lab, though few people I know would actually have the nerve

to ask another person to leave unless they were playing solitaire or something. The thing that really bothered me on that day was that the AVC students who suddenly needed to use the lab were just passing by between classes to check their email. The person who stood up and made the announcement was not even among them, she was already in the lab. This person was obviously looking for an excuse to throw her weight around. That is just outright snobbery. I won't argue that- I would just ask that you don't let incidents like this taint your opinion of every vet student. For awhile, I got so paranoid about how people felt about AVC that when I finally did start

meeting other people and they asked what I did, I'd only say "I'm still in school." This would invariably bring the reply, "At UPEI?" and I would simply answer yes. Only after being asked what I was taking would I admit to going to the AVC. I'm actually very proud to be at AVC. It's not an easy place to get into and I worked hard to arrive where I am, but certainly don't think that places me above those who have chosen to study in another field. So, in the spirit of that shampoo commercial that asks "Don't hate me because I'm beautiful", I say "Don't hate me because I'm a vet student."

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