

ONCE AGAIN NOMINATIONS ARE OPEN FOR THE FOLLOWING POSITIONS

1 YEAR TERMS

(NOMINATIONS WILL CLOSE MONDAY, OCTOBER 25th at 5:00 P.M.)

- 1 GRAD CLASS PRESIDENT**
 - 2 STUDENT SENATORS**
 - 4 FIRST YEAR R.A. SEATS**
 - 6 SECOND YEAR R.A. SEATS**
 - 6 THIRD YEAR R.A. SEATS**
-

1/2 YEAR TERMS

(NOMINATIONS FORMS ARE NOW AVAILABLE AT THE SUB)

- 2 FIRST YEAR R.A. SEATS**
 - 2 SECOND YEAR R.A. SEATS**
 - 1 COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR**
 - 1 ACTIVITIES CO-ORDINATOR**
 - 1 ACADEMIC AFFAIRS CHAIRMAN**
 - 1 EXTRA MURALS ATHLETIC CHAIRMAN**
-

***The Election Will Be Held
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 1st***

**RON ARMSTRONG,
INTERIM COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR**

Elections ruled invalid in emergency session of RA

Results of last week's elections were declared invalid in an emergency meeting of the Representative Assembly Sunday night.

Chief Returning Officer, Mike Farr, told the assembly that "some incredible things" had happened "over the last week", and then produced a seven page report he'd compiled which explained his statement in detail.

Farr's report was terminated with four recommendations of action to the RA - two of which were passed, with amendments, invalidating the elections.

"This election has been plagued with nothing but trouble since the outset." began the release, "The following is a detailed list of inconsistencies, irregularities, unconstitutional steps and incredible findings during recounts of 3 ballots."

incredible

The most startling revelation contained in Farr's statement concerned discrepancies on ballot counts.

Votes for Senate positions, third year and above RA positions, and the Constitutional Amendment, were recounted late last week, reported Farr, and in every instance the original count and recount produced different totals.

In the Senate vote, Brian Alguire lost ten votes — going from 795 to 785 — while Bob Higinbotham was up four from his original 768. Derry McDonnell was still substantially ahead of those two, though he dropped eight from his first total of 913.

The referendum on constitutional amendment failed according to the original count, but the recount showed it with the required two-thirds majority it needed to pass.

The referendum had shown 1,010 voting 'yes' and 531 voting 'no', on the first counting, but 1,074 (up 64) voting 'yes', and 461 (down 70) voting 'no' on the second tally.

box overlooked

Farr's report also stated that during re-checking procedures it was discovered that somehow a ballot box had been overlooked Tuesday night, and its contents had not been counted.

When they were, the totals of the constitution referendum changed again — 'yes', 1,192 and 'no', 507.

On the missing box, Farr's report stated that "When the boxes were taken downstairs (to the counting room in the Student Union Building) they were all unlocked and left at designated desks. In the MacLaurin Building, the Library and the Sub the boxes being used for the Referendums were changed and the full ones brought to the Sub. These boxes were also taken downstairs for counting.

During the count, the extra box for the MacLaurin Building was somehow missed. This was noticed Thursday afternoon ..."

Discrepancies in the referendum counts "proved discouraging" said Farr's report, "and, on top of the Senatorial recount, created other doubts. I then decided to recount the rest of the ballots, to be done Saturday, October 16th.

"Since the missed box also included the Athletics referendum, we recounted those first. The original count was

Yes	454	28 percent
No	1201	72 percent
The recount showed		
Yes	506	28 percent
No	1332	72 percent

Therefore the percentage did not change."

Farr then ordered recounting of third year and above RA ballots, he says in his report, and found that in all cases, errors had been made in the original count.

All candidates came out with a smaller total in the second count - often more than 200 votes less than the original count showed.

Farr said that the recount of third year polls indicated to him that some ballots had disappeared between Tuesday night counting and Saturday's count.

ballots taken?

"Questions I have been unable to answer: where are they? if someone took them, why? when?" said Farr in the report.

Aside from vote discrepancies, the statement dealt with several other points of complaint.

Farr said that the resignation of Communications Secretary Pat Dunae did much to foul up election procedures.

"This unfortunate action left the elections without anyone to oversee them although Dunae claimed that the machinery for the election was all set up."

Farr stated that the Executive Council was much to blame for problems arising from Dunae's resignation, as they delayed choosing a replacement until after Oct. 20th.

"Meanwhile, the elections and the campaign were being held under no ones supervision," charged Farr.

constitutional?

Farr accused the RA of breaking the constitution when, on Sept. 26th, they passed a motion which extended the elections to Tuesday, Oct. 12th to allow for the holiday on the 11th.

He said that technically "October 1st should not have been the last day for nominations. Instead, either Monday the 4th or Tuesday the

5th should have been the last days of nomination. Flexibility, for reason of holiday, is always necessary — but not by 4 days."

Irregularities also existed in the campaigning, stated Farr.

campaigning irregular

"Although many may disagree, I associate posters and campaigning as the same thing. Posters were to be removed on Friday, October 8th by 5 p.m. As far as I'm concerned that designates the last time for campaigning and from then till the polls close there should be no campaigning.

a) Posters were left up well after the deadline and some remained during the election. I could give examples but see no reason as most witnessed them.

b) Campaigning takes form in several ways and one of these is by telephone. Although there are no rules to the contrary, a telephone campaign took place on the evening of Monday, October 11th. This is 3 days after the removal of posters had taken place.

c) Campaigning on the day of the election is not allowed. I will refer to this point underneath 'Poll Sitters'."

On poll sitters, Farr said that he received complaints "from several people about Athletics students advising students how to vote. I was a witness of this in the Sub."

"Complaints have also been received" he continued, "about who (was) sitting at the polls. Complaints have been supplemented by statements that several sitters were wearing sweat suits or that there were 4, 5 and even 6 people gathered around the table who were obviously athletic students.

"Conversely, there were several polls which had only one sitter. This is not right and is also unfair and leads to suspicion."

some ballots withheld?

Farr also charged that some students did not receive all of the ballots when they went to vote.

He said he'd been told that twice, and "Both times it concerned the Extramurals and Senatorial ballot."

Farr said that he also heard talk of ballot stuffing, but "Nothing but rumours so far."

One member of the RA said, however, that he'd observed a polling station left unattended in the library for as long as five minutes. In that time, he said, "hundreds of ballots could have been ripped-off."

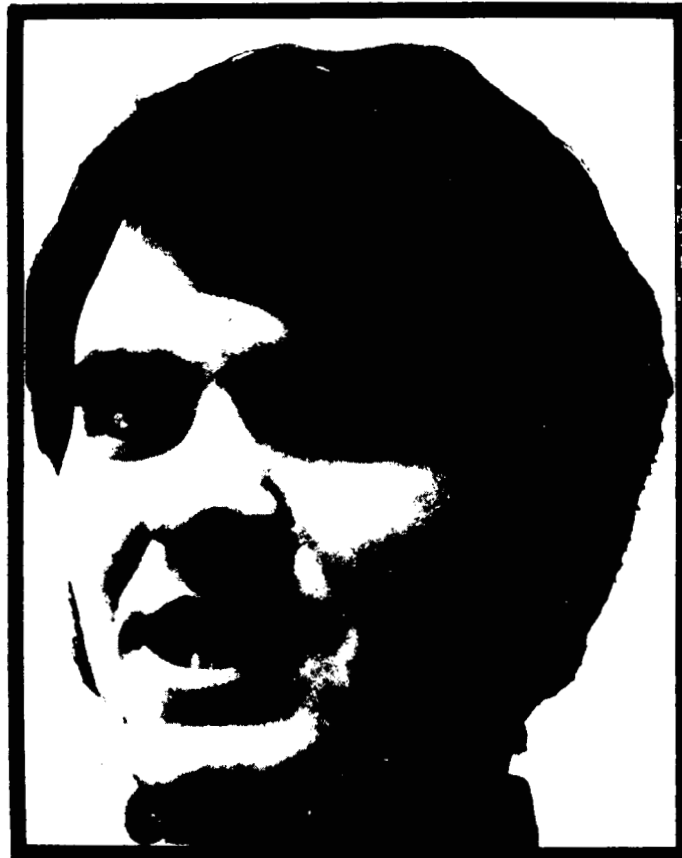
In his report, Farr attacked President Ian McKinnon for campaigning for one of the three referenda held in conjunction with the RA elections.

"Please note that I have

nothing against jocks — and voted 'no' on the (athletics) referendum. But, I believe there was unfair campaigning in comparison to the rest of the candidates.

"Two briefs were written about the Athletics Referendum." said Farr's report, "The second was

(OVER)



"THIS TAKES THE CAKE." — MCKINNON

McKinnon fails in numerous abort attempts

President Ian McKinnon tried several times unsuccessfully to have Sunday night's emergency RA meeting cancelled.

McKinnon challenged the quorum numerous times, but only succeeded in stalling the meeting for an hour.

McKinnon's first challenge initiated great debate among the assembly as to what number constituted quorum, and as to how many members the assembly actually consisted of.

President McKinnon insisted that 16 RA members were needed for a meeting of the assembly, but second year representative Brian Greene contradicted him, saying 12 was quorum.

The Speaker, Roger Painter, declared a quorum to be present, only to have his ruling challenged again by McKinnon.

The assembly went around in the same circle three times, and each time RA members stood, were counted by Painter, and declared to be quorum, McKinnon challenged.

"What the hell's happening?" demanded one dizzy member.

"A lot of bullshit from McKinnon, that's what," said Painter, as he finally declared that there wasn't enough for a quorum, and ended the meeting before it had started.

McKinnon then called a meeting of the Executive Council, and asked Chief Returning Officer Mike Farr to present his report on the recent RA elections.

"I have made my feelings known that I wished to report to the Representative Assembly and not the Executive Council," Farr told McKinnon.

"If the Executive Council has decided you'll report to us, you will," McKinnon ordered.

"I will not," said Farr, "I will report only to the Representative Assembly."

(OVER)

Director in despite 'personal reasons'

Executive member of the Representative Assembly, Ron Armstrong, was appointed interim Communications Director Sunday night.

Armstrong accepted the position somewhat reluctantly, only after several people had refused to accept appointment to that position.

President Ian McKinnon objected to Armstrong's appointment, however, saying he was against it for "personal reasons".

emergency session..election results thrown out..continued

under Linda Flavelle's name — and was paid for out of the Athletic supporters pockets (candidates).

"It is the first one that I consider unfair (this brief was an objective look at the referendum). It came from the AMS President's office and was paid for out of his discretionary fund. I see nothing wrong with that and what he did. It's what he didn't do. There was another referendum during this election which he supported verbally — just like the Athletics referendum. Why, then, didn't an objective brief come from his office concerning the possibility of hiring a Visiting Lecturer? Why was it left to a few to publicize on their own initiative that Bill Goede was speaking in the Sub — explaining what he would do if hired? Although nothing is technically wrong, I find it totally unfair.

"There was also this minor problem of mixing up the intent of the two referendums. There were good attempts by

the "Jocks" to clarify the two — and to make sure they were not confused. Nevertheless, there was bound to be confusion — and this confusion should have been prevented by removing the Athletics referendum and holding the vote on that one at the proper time (October 18th to 22nd)." said Farr.

Farr's release closed with four recommendations. He suggested to the RA:

1. If you accept one result, accept them all.

2. Declare the elections for all positions invalid and reopen the call for nominations to be closed next Monday, October 25th with the election to be held on Monday, November 1st.

3. Strict electoral regulations concerning campaigning, advertising, poll sitters and ballot counters must be set up, and following this, somehow initiated in the constitution.

4. If a Communication Director resigns in future, recommend a replacement by appointment immediately —

even if you have to wait for ratification by the R.A. to make it official."

Points two and three were accepted and passed by the RA — with Linda Flavelle and

Ian McKinnon in opposition — though number three received some amendments before being carried.

The amendments itemized

what "strict electoral regulations" should be, and provided that the Goede referendum be dropped from the next ballot if Dr. Goede so wished.

McKinnon...

"Oh yeah?" said McKinnon. Farr walked away without replying to McKinnon's question.

The Council meeting ended half-an-hour later, at which time another RA member showed up, bringing the total to 14, the number that most had agreed was quorum.

Painter called the emergency meeting of the RA to order at that time, but only after overcoming a challenge of quorum by McKinnon.

Immediately, Farr was called upon to present his report.

"There are some incredible things that have happened over the last week," said Farr, "I'd prefer to say nothing more — it's all con-

stall attempts...continued

tained in the report I'm about to give out."

The release was read to exclamations of "Jesus, this is far out."

"Oh my god, do you believe this?"

"Holy shit."

And a considerable amount of laughter from the RA members.

"Is this presented as a non-fictional item?" asked McKinnon with a laugh.

Farr assured him, and the other members of the assembly, that the report was indeed serious, and that the statistics therein were accurate.

It was sometime, however, before the assembly began to take the release seriously.

"I've seen sour grapes in my time, but this takes the cake..." said McKinnon, who questioned the validity of the report, saying it was "only the observation" of the Chief Returning Officer.

Publications Director, Greg Fraser, disagreed, however, saying "There's enough there (in the report) to invalidate this election ... it was just a farce."

Eventually the assembly voted on motions to invalidate the elections, and by a vote of 12 to 2 decided the elections had to be re-run.

The meeting adjourned soon after, though the quorum was challenged once again.

THE NEXT MORNING, IN DUCKBURG...

