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and so much more...

"The public will believe anything, so long as it is not founded on truth."

-Edith Sitwell

Lougheed the Barbarian for President

Our comments on the Presidential and VP External races

Its election season again, (I know, I didn't hear anything either) and its time to take a look at the self-loathing masochists who have dragged themselves away from updating their Myspace pages long enough to run, or walk briskly, for some shiny office. The 432 has assembled a crack team of political experts to diligently investigate the submissions, platforms and credit histories of the candidates and come up with a series of hard hitting hypothetical questions for the candidates. The same team of experts will answer, using information pulled directly from the candidates' cute little write ups to avoid any spin doctoring by those tricky candidates.

We asked the crack team of experts (we can't express enough how cracked out this team is) to study the presidential candidates first, all two of them, here's what they had to report.

The candidates are some guy named Jeff Friedrich and what we suspect is a reclusive, former european handball all-star named Maxwell Maxwell. Aligned at opposite sides of the political spectrum, this will be a spirited hypothetical debate.

First question: Which direction does the candidate intend to take the AMS as its heroic and noble leader?

Jeff Friedrich: "I believe that ... a strong ... student ... can ... influence the direction..." of the AMS. Interesting if true, Jeff, but we were speaking figuratively.

Max Max: "Is it time for a change in ... student government?" One, we're asking the questions Max Max, and the answer is 'yes', on account of it being election time.

Question two: Why should we, as an uninterested and generally apathetic electorate care about the AMS elections?

Jeff: "The AMS matters." Could you be more specific Jeff? Oh good, he hypothetically agreed. "People care what the AMS thinks and there are countless direct examples I can provide." Alright Jeff, 'people' is not more specific, no one cares what the AMS thinks (and that's a fact, we know, we're in sciences) and 'countless' is just plain impossible.

Max Max: "I'll create a new government..." Well, Max Max, that's kind of the point, but go on. "Alcohol and parties will be cheaper and more plentiful." A balanced and compelling argument from Max Max.

And a final question of tantamount importance: How does the candidate feel about the enrollment of Trogdor the Burninator as a student at UBC.

Jeff: "A worst case scenario that's all too common at UBC." Not very open minded Jeff.

Max Max: "Elect me, and I'll bring that change." You've got our hypothetical vote!

And now the expert team of political experts (yes, it needs two) will move arbitrarily to examine the candidates for VP External Affairs. These candidates, in either no particular order, or perhaps some malevolent and brilliant order designed to influence who you will vote for, assuming anyone ever actually voted, are Chris Brush, Joel Kozwarski, Thomas Masterson and Matthew 'The Hammer' Naylor.

Our team of expert experts, growing weary of the confines of a set series of questions have in their wisdom and expertery, opted to simply examine each of the candidates cute little write ups and discuss what they find. Hypothetically.

First, since he was listed first, is Chris Brush. Let's see what he has to say.

"I am a fourth year Political Science major..." Our expert panel of political experts sees this as meaningless.

"I understand the average UBC student..." Average, you calling us average? You've got a lot of nerve Brush.

"I look forwards to the coming weeks..." Forwards? What's with the pluralization of 'forward' Chris? You've confused us with your political jargon and spin doctoring.

Next is Joel Kozwarski.

"Being AMS VP External is a something that I have wanted to do for about a year now." A something, eh Joel? Way to aim a high.

"I was raised ... dealing with corrupt customs officials, corrupt policemen and dealing with people in positions of power..." That sure is a lot of corruption Joel, if that is your real name.

"I believe this past experience will be invaluable..." Sure, invaluable as evidence.

"Thanks, Joel" Wait, are you thanking us or yourself? Once again the political smoke and mirrors utilized by these cunning and yes, clever candidates is astounding.

Onward and downward to Thomas Masterson.

"... I, as you are undoubtedly aware, am running for the position of VP External of the AMS." Wait a minute Tommy, VP of the what now for the who?

"I am aware of the shortcomings of the various aspects of ... life," Whoa, easy Thomas, its gonna be okay.

"Other candidates will cite their experience in UBC politics as an asset, and my inexperience as a detriment." Bingo. Boy, you're smart Thomas.

Finally, Matthew 'The Hammer' Naylor.

What is your name? "My name is Matthew Naylor."

What is your quest? "... I'm running for VP-External of the AMS."

What is your favorite colour? Although he did not provide that information in his write up, we can be fairly certain its fuchsia, or possibly electric magenta.

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Vote for The 432 when you cast your ballot for AMS elections January 24-31, 2007

xkcd.com

Randall Munroe

