

# FEBRUARY

by Bruce Cookson

February was called Sprout-Kale by the Anglo-Saxons because that was the month their cabbages sprouted. Perhaps that's not such a bad name. The odds are that February, month of elections, saw more than a few cabbages sprouting their way into office.

Jean Chretien came to campus and predicted the Liberals would form the next government. For once, he wasn't just talking out of the corner of his mouth. Unfortunately the Liberals won, but at least the universe was once more unfolding as it should. Now, what was that about interest rates, Jean?

Election fever also hit the U of A as our very own miniature politicians stepped forward to practice for the big leagues. There is nothing like the raw, electric, adrenalin-pitched battles of an election campaign. Nothing like the glamor and excitement of witty and urbane politicoes slugging it out with stunningly creative and consequential election promises. Nothing like it at the U of A anyway.

In what could fairly be described as

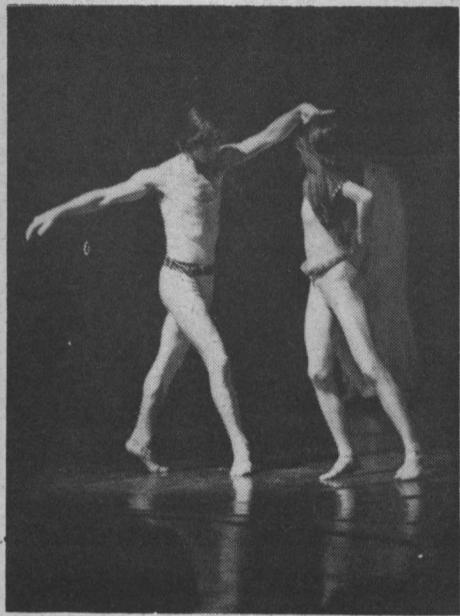


Dancers celebrate Faculte St. Jean's winter carnival.

a sleeper of a campaign, Nolan Astley defeated Scott Thorkelson for the presidency of the Students' Union. As the downtown competition said in a rare editorial venture into university affairs, it was a case of a man with no ideas beating a man with one idea. Actually, it's too bad the election turned out as it did. It might have been fun sitting around in a new parkade wearing honorary society pins and getting all budsy wudsy with the public as we leafed through our brand new year-books together.

But February wasn't all election. The weather was bad enough without that additional curse. Lake Sagaris appeared once again in the *Gateway*, but this time with a new picture. The Executive Officer of FAS pondered the organization's future and concluded that students need an ongoing "organization to be constantly coordinating and keeping the information flow going ..."

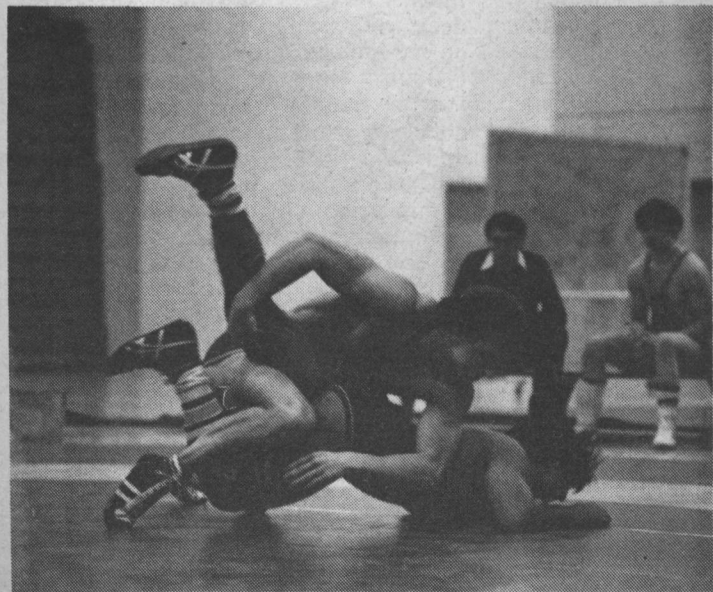
*Gateway* photographer Brad Keith needed something like that as his



Orchesis, the University's Creative Dance Club in action.



The winners of the traditional February turkey shoot were Nolan Astley and friends.



The Bears wrestling team was the second best in the nation.



Jean Chretien in fine and characteristic form.

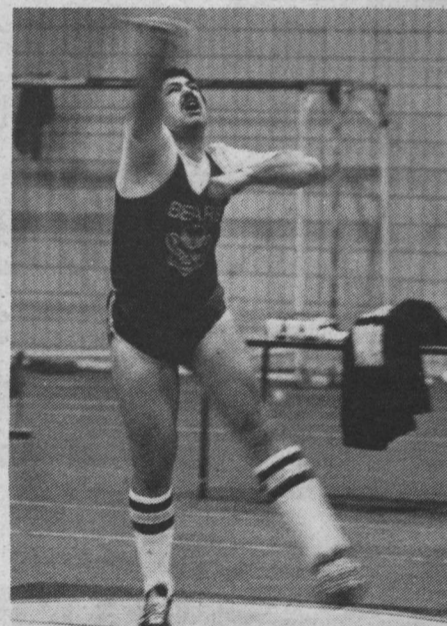


Hot Dawg! The David Grisman Quintet was one of the highlights in SUB Theatre.

misadventure with information put the camera on him for a change. An intriguing piece of metal sculpture on loan from the National Gallery of Canada turned out to be nothing more than a hunk of SUB Bookstore bent shelving, but not until Brad had immortalised it in the *Gateway* pages as a fine representative of modern sculpture.

February also saw the battle continue between students and the CTV's W5 over a controversial television program first aired in November. And who can forget the high night of comedy at the Jubilee as the Canadian League of Rights banded together in a festival of goodwill. Salivating as only the right-wing can, they called for the expulsion of the yellow hordes and then, in conspiratorial tones, announced that John Crosbie was actually a Fabian Socialist. Hey fellows, what's it like to be really nuts?

Not all was joy and goodwill in the month of February, however. The sudden death of Pharmacy Dean Garry Van Petten came as a sad surprise to



The Bears track team was the best in the West.

associates, students and family.

Other sadness followed when the Publication Board named Keith Krause as the 1980-81 *Gateway* editor. Steve Cummings latched on to the appointments being handed out and ended up as the new director of CJSR.

For the most part, SUB Theatre was a boring place to be in February, but the Edmonton Jazz Society did its best to liven things up with the brilliant music and performances of the David Grisman Quintet. Les Ballets Jazz from Montreal was also a very special treat.

In sports, the Bears wrestling team won the Canada West Championship and ended up second in the nation. The Bears track team were also big winners, taking their third straight Canada West title. Too bad they were so successful. They may be axed next year so the losers in basketball can continue siphoning off the big funds.

And so passed another February. Of course, the best thing about it was reading week, but if something's that good, why write about it?

I told you you'd get credit Janet.