

## Exemptions with 80% in English 30

# WCT rules change

by Emma Sadgrove

As of September 22, 1986, students who achieved a mark of 80% or better on the Alberta Grade XII Diploma Examination in English 30 are exempt from the Writing Competency Test.

This motion was passed by General Faculties Council to be effective immediately. It will affect all students who have not yet passed the WCT as well as students entering the University of Alberta from this date.

The proposal was put forth by the GFC Academic Development Committee. ADC considered a cut-off mark of 79%, which would exempt more students, without affecting the percentage of error. The percentage of error represents

the number of students who would be exempted who would have failed the test.

It was decided, however, that 80% was most suitable since it represents an "A" or "Honors" in high school.

With exemptions at 80%, there is a 9% percentage of error. This means that approximately 1 in 10 exempted students would have failed the WCT. Most failures of students in the over 80% category are marginal failures.

At the University of Calgary, students are exempt with grades of 75% or better. This figure also represents a percentage of error of 9%.

Students' Union VP Academic Craig Cooper feels that these

changes "show great initiative on the part of the university," although he wanted to see a cut-off mark of 79%, which was defeated.

The university's policy on the Writing Competency Testing and Remediation is subject to review by December 1987.

Cooper says he is currently "drafting proposals to change the amount of time you have to write the test." He would like to see the deadline defined in terms of credits toward a degree rather than calendar months.

In the meantime, what was felt to be the most pressing of the changes has been taken care of.

Cooper said, "I am really glad that the university is working on possible changes."

The difference between journalism and literature is that...

...journalism is unreadable and literature is not read.

Oscar Wilde

# The Gateway

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## Previous ruling unfair

# SU appeals change

by Christof Leybold

Students' Union Vice President Academic Craig Cooper says the S.U. is planning to appeal a recent amendment to the Code of Student Behaviour regarding plagiarism.

The General Faculty Council (GFC) recently changed the code to read, "No student shall submit words, ideas, images or data of another person as his or her own in any academic writing, essay, thesis, research project or assignment in a

course or program of study."

Before the amendment the code had an "intent to deceive" clause.

"The ruling was definitely not fair," said Cooper. He referred to the fact that the onus of proof remained on the student, and that it was up to each professor to judge where plagiarism had occurred.

Cooper said last week he would initiate an appeal process in conjunction with the Graduate Students' Association, the student body representing graduate stud-

ents.

However, the S.U. vice president refused to say what specific measures would be taken. Neither did he reveal when he would take action.

"We are in the process of working on it," Cooper said last Friday. "If it goes to print the (General Faculty Council) will know what we are doing," he said.

Representatives of the G.F.C. could not be reached by presstime for comment.

# Students caught in B.C. housing crunch

by James Young

**VANCOUVER (CUP)** — Landlords here are choosing students over Expo guests, say housing administrators at the two local universities.

But that's small compensation to students facing the tightest housing market in five years.

Bob Frampton, residence administrator at the University of British Columbia, said an increase in applications for on-campus housing this summer indicated local landlords were changing traditional student accommodation into more profitable bed-and-breakfasts for Expo visitors.

"Now, a lot of people who had decided to piggy-back on the fair's appeal are deciding they would rather convert back and rent to students than risk having an empty bed," said Frampton.

There are an estimated 2,500 such bed-and-breakfasts in the Vancouver area, charging guests between \$45 and \$65 per person per night.

But Frampton said profits from such accommodation must already be dropping as the number of out of town Expo visitors declines.

At Simon Fraser University, housing manager Geoff Ward said Expo had not affected listings with regular landlords, even during the exhibition's peak summer months.

But with metropolitan Vancouver's apartment vacancy rate of 0.9 per cent, the lowest in five years, students say available housing is often substandard or overpriced.

"I have rented places close to the university in the past, and have not had a problem finding something in my price range of \$200 to \$300," said UBC student Martin de Jonge.

"But this year, there have been occasions when I've arrived at a place at the same time as four or five other students, and just as quickly the place has been rented," he said.

Anna Metaxas, a UBC grad student, said apartment-hunting in

Vancouver is dismal compared to Montreal. "For \$275, you can get an apartment in Montreal, downtown, in a highrise, with everything included," she said. "Here, you can't get anything for \$275 — you'll be lucky if you share."

An April study by the Canada



New stained glass window in St. Joe's photo Bruce Gardave

# Windows opened

by John Watson

St. Joseph's College donated the new stained glass windows in its chapel to the U of A on Wednesday.

"We will present these windows to the university so they become part of the university heritage," said college president Father Wallace Platt.

Father Platt is pleased with the windows — "it's all the best," he said, "...they (the windows) bring us in line with the great cathedrals of Europe and North America... they are unique in the country."

The windows were designed and constructed by London, Ontario artist Christopher Wallace.

Wallace worked on the windows for approximately two years; Wednesday was the first time he saw the completed windows in place. He appeared very pleased. "They have come together as a complete set,"

he said. "I think they are extremely successful."

Eleven in total, the windows depict the gospel stories. The two basic images in all of the windows are the circle — representing God, and the flame — representing the Holy Spirit. "The drawing is personal," said Wallace, "the underlying images are not."

The windows cost about \$76,000. They replaced plain glass windows: "You couldn't see through them," said Father Platt, "they were kind of cold."

The project was completed in commemoration of the college's 60th anniversary being celebrated this year.

The college is proud to give the windows to the university. Father Platt joked: "We hope they (the U of A) won't take them out of here this afternoon."

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