

"She wouldn't recognise sexual harassment..."

The Gateway

...if it bit her on the ass."
— former Gateway editor
Kathleen Beechinor.

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Minister shrugs scroll

by Jeff Cowley

Advanced Education Minister Dave Russell brushed away claims Tuesday about the deterioration of Alberta universities.

"I'll stack up Alberta institutions with any in Canada," said the minister, defending arguments that funding cutbacks have put Alberta behind other schools in Canada.

Representatives of the universities of Lethbridge, Calgary and Alberta converged at the Legislature to present the minister with a 13,000 name petition urging the province to increase education spending.

Alberta universities need more money to upgrade student services, expand research facilities, and combat rising tuition fees, said SU vp external David Tupper.

"The people of Alberta want more funding. Students want more funding," said Tupper, spokesman for the petition. "There is a broad based recognition of the importance of education funding."

Reduced provincial funding to universities in recent years has led to a decline in education standards, causing Alberta universities to fall behind other schools in Canada, he said.

"As students, we have to deal with insufficient funds on an everyday basis."

"Our classes are over-crowded,



SU vp external David Tupper handed a scroll with the names of over 13,000 students from the universities of Lethbridge, Calgary, and Alberta. Inset: students rolling the scroll hours before the presentation.

Rob Galbraith

our facilities are deteriorating, and the quality of our libraries is declining. Good professors are leaving because we can't afford to retain them," said Tupper.

The provincial government kicked in close to \$400 million to the university budget — covering half of its overall expenses — for the 1986-87 academic year, according to Students' Union figures. Tuition covers about ten percent of the budget, while the federal government pays the rest.

The minister dismissed arguments that universities have been neglected. Russell said that he "really didn't believe things were as bleak" as Tupper described.

"We have said that education is a number one priority, and in a

relative sense it is a number one priority," said Russell. He pointed out that Alberta tuition is the second-lowest in the country, next to Quebec.

"Our responsibility is to provide a first class secondary institution, and we intend to do that. I think students throughout the campuses of Alberta realise what the economic facts of life are."

While Russell disputed some of the descriptive points of the students' case, he said he agrees with the general "thrust" of the campaign, and would pass the scroll on to the treasury commission.

The minister formally committed himself to a U of A forum in March to address funding issues.

office and residential space, and finally, major renovations to the 425 residential units which included new flooring, paint, fixtures, wiring, plumbing, etc.

As Szyling explains, another main concern of this project was to bring the mall up to 1988 Alberta building code standards in terms of the fire alarm system, sprinklers, fire separation, etc.

The Hub Mall Retrofit project was funded approximately 40 percent by the provincial government with the remaining 60 percent coming from the university, and

HUB — p 2

Record store rotates

by Lisa Hall

The U of A Students' Union is currently working on plans for the renovation of the SU Record Store.

Student Council opted in early October to turn the store into an SU service and to move it into a smaller space in HUB Mall, rather than selling the deficient retail operation.

The store will eventually be moved to the old Budget Word Processing location, which is one-third the size of the present SU Records.

"We're unsure when the move will come," said SU vp Chris Welsh, adding that it depended on when a number of decisions were made.

The SU is analyzing the record store's sales to determine how to cut the inventory for the new location. The current store has an inventory of \$247,000. Because the new store is so much smaller, "we're looking at decreasing the inventory by \$130,000," said Welsh.

Architects are now working on renovation ideas for the new store. Welsh hopes that the architects

will be able to keep the inventory reductions to a minimum by finding ways of displaying as much merchandise as possible in the smaller space. One idea, said Welsh, is "to have higher display racks than the present store has."

When the store does move, it will get a break on its lease for the present location. The Students' Union is currently negotiating with HUB mall administration on the break and on the new lease.

Once the inventory changes, architects' designs, and the deal with HUB are completed, they must receive approval from Student Council. Welsh estimates it will then take about a month for the construction and set up of the new store.

Because the store will become a SU service, it will have a student director. This means it will be minus present manager Taras Ostashevsky.

Ostashevsky, who has been with SU Records for eight years, said he is disappointed about his release, but is "more disappointed about what is happening to the store."

The nature of the store will change, said Ostashevsky, and it will lose its depth and uniqueness.

Ostashevsky will remain with the store during the Christmas season, and possibly throughout the move to help set up the new location.

He couldn't speculate on how well the new store would do financially.

However, he feels that because of the reduced inventory, "SU Records will lose its reputation of customers walking in, and finding everything they could imagine."

Mall hub of unrest

by Boris Zvonkovic

What the hell is happening to Hub Mall? That is a question that many a student may have asked since classes began in September as they hopped over planks, side-stepped barriers, tripped over electrical cords, and absorbed the bone-rattling sounds of construction.

To many who have been on campus for the last couple of years, dodging the obstacles of construction in Hub has become commonplace, it seems the mall has been one long running construction zone. The reason for this is that over the last two to three years Hub Mall has undergone a major face-lift, and a personality change that has some mall merchants and students upset.

In the summer of 1986 the three part project, known as Hub Mall Retrofit, was begun under the combined initiative and direction of the university's Housing and Food Services and the de-

partment of planning and development.

According to Michael Szyling, development officer with planning and development, the \$12 million Retrofit project included: replacing and resealing Hub Mall's long glass skylight, construction of the new off loading facility for deliveries and waste disposal along with the enclosure of 112st. (which use to run under the mall), and the development of this area into

INSIDE

News

It's Faculte Riviera. How to study in the South of France. p 3

Feature

Bug on the Brick. It's hot. It's hip. It's happening. p 6

Arts

Hold on! It's Holger! (Peterson that is). The honcho of Stony Plain records talks. p 7

Sports

Basketball shooting star Sean Chursinoff and his teammates are in the GB Invitational. p 11

