

# The Gateway



**Bill Lee, Spaceman and reluctant US Presidential candidate for the Rhino Party will touch down on campus.**

RHINO p.11

## Parkade mortgage change

by Ken Bosman

Parking services may get a break on the mortgages it pays on the Windsor, Stadium, and Education carparks.

The parking services mortgages are payable to the endowment funds of the University and have their interest rates indexed to the cost of living. This indexing has caused parking services to pay over 20 percent interest on some of its mortgages.

A restructuring of the mortgages is on the agenda of the November meeting of the Board of Governors finance committee.

"I'd like to see the interest rates go back to a reasonable level," said

Tim Boston, Students' Union President and also Board Finance Committee member. "The growth in the interest rate payable rate is scary."

Jamie Fleming, the investment officer for the U of A who is responsible for managing the U of A's endowment funds, has presented several options to Board Finance. "My slant is for a market rate buyout," said Fleming, which means that the mortgages of parking services would be paid off in a single lump sum. This payment would reflect the current value of all the mortgage payments parking services is obligated to make in future years.

The Students' Union, however, is against this idea. "The rate should be as low as possible — that's what is better for parking services," said S.U. Housing and Transport Commissioner K. Graham Bowers.

Dave Oginski, student member of the Board of Governors, also feels a principle is at stake. "Parking services is supposed to be non-profit, but at the current rates the mortgages are a big profit maker for the endowments."

Bowers added, "Parking services has paid its share to the endowments. We need parking. That's where the money should be going."

Fleming disagrees. "We have to be fair to the endowment funds", and added "It's a philosophical question. The money earned by the endowments goes toward scholarships, bursaries and awards. It is paying an extra 50 cents a month to park too much to contribute towards this?"



Prospective first year students learn to keep up with the pack.

Photo: Dragos Ralu

### Inside this issue

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The controversial Palestine Awareness Week begins Nov. 3.

#### LETTERS — p.4

A controversial cartoon run in this paper only portrayed the perverse titillation of a horny Gateway staff.

#### RECORDS — p.7

*Dumb Poet* by Immaculate Fools — please God, if you exist, make this record some kind of a joke.

#### FEATURE pp.8-9

U of A's Department of Zoology is researching methods to improve human tolerance of cold.

#### ALL-STAR — p.10

The U of A Soccer and Football teams contributed ten members to the Western all-star teams announced Wednesday.

## Poison PAC debut

by Gateway staff

A "Poison PAC" has been developed by the University of Alberta that will aid in the problem of accidental poisoning in the home.

The Poison PAC, developed by the faculties of Medicine, Nursing, and Pharmacy, has both educational and tangible components.

The tangible part of the program is a home kit which include poison treatment supplies, safety latches for cupboards and drawers, information manuals for poison-proofing the home, and phone numbers of poison treatment centers in the case of an accidental poisoning. Also included will be "Poison Pat" stickers to be placed on hazardous

## Part time problems

by Lloyd Robertson

Are part-time university students being treated fairly? Not according to COPUS representative Maria Johnson.

Among other things, says Johnson, part-time students pay more fees (proportionately), aren't allowed to hold seats in the students' union, and are limited in the number of degrees which they may obtain through part-time studies.

The Canadian Organization of Part-Time University Students

(COPUS), was established in 1977 to deal with these and other problems encountered by the part-time student. They have been an available resource to U of A students with a representative on campus since 1980.

The objectives of COPUS are to represent the cause of the part-time student to governing bodies, universities, and student organizations, and to promote access to any and all degrees through part-time studies.

The ultimate goal of the organization, as stated in a 1987 newsletter, is to "achieve equality of opportunity for all university students."

Of particular concern to part-time students at the U of A is the differential fee structure. According to Johnson, the fee structure discriminates against part-time students.

"The part-time student pays more for what he/she receives. For example, a part-time student pays \$115.50 for one course. A full time student taking five courses pays the equivalent of \$96.90 per course. The difference of \$18.60 doesn't seem fair."

Johnson points out that students' union fees are also higher for part-time students and that although the differences are admittedly small, it is the principle of inequity that COPUS is striving to change.

Another problem is that part-

COPUS p.2

## Controversial SU car costs

by Rod Campbell

Tim Boston, the president of the Students' Union at the University of Alberta, arbitrarily compensated himself \$650 out of SU funds for driving his car to Vancouver, says Arts Councilor Martin Levenson.

Boston drove to the University of British Columbia with three other SU elected employees in July to attend a Canadian Universities Students' Executive Council conference on behalf of U of A students.

"There isn't a student on this

campus who can tell me it cost \$650 to drive to Vancouver and back," said Levenson.

Boston said that his remuneration is based on the Canadian Union of Public Employees Local 1368 contract guidelines, which entitled him to charge twenty cents a kilometer for using his own vehicle on SU business.

All non-elected SU employees belong to CUPE. However, SU management are entitled to the same benefits, says Boston.

"What they did is inappropriate; they decided what their remuneration should be," said Levenson.

"It's inappropriate for anybody to be awarding themselves money out of the Students' Union budget."

SU business manager Tom Wright said, "Only one employee, to my knowledge, has ever taken advantage of the clause in the Union contract. The only time that has been used was in town."

Boston said, "Just because it hasn't been done doesn't mean it's wrong."

When asked if he would allow a Union employee to drive a car to Vancouver Wright said, "An economy flight is \$150. Why should I pay \$650 to let somebody drive there?"

Wright added that taking a car to Vancouver is "definitely not" the cheapest way to go.

Council allocated \$606 costs for three delegates.

Boston said they were initially going to fly and received a quote from Travel Cuts based on \$202 per person.

However, he said, "We forgot to budget for the taxi cabs to the airports. It would have ended up costing around \$722."

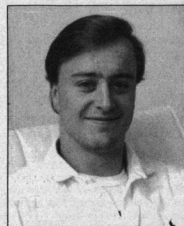
"As far as driving, we thought we would save the Students' union money."

A spokesperson for Travel Cuts said that \$202 didn't sound right but couldn't elaborate because the estimate would be impossible to trace.

CP Air confirmed that a \$159 fare was available throughout the summer if booked two weeks in advance.

Asked why he hadn't taken a university car from the Vehicle Pool, Boston replied, "The last one we took broke down. We thought it would be better if we took a car we knew would make it there and back."

When confronted with the fact that the Gateway was charged \$400 for using a University car to drive to



SU President Tim Boston

Victoria and back Boston said, "I see it's a bit cheaper. We thought it (using his own car) would be the same cost."

However, Boston said that he had not asked Vehicle Pool for an estimate.

SU VP Finance Steve Twible said Boston's remuneration "was approved by the Executive; 20 cents a kilometer was a fair rate. What's in question is whether that 20 cents is justified."

Boston said he is currently working on a new policy outlining SU remuneration for travel expenditures.

I believe you come back as whatever you've abused the previous life. If you're a dope smoker, you might come back as a tree and get processed into a Zig Zag.

Bill Lee