

"I'm not sure what I want,
but that's not the point..."

The Gateway

"...it's that I want it now."
— Elvis Costello

Tuesday January 24, 1989

The University of Alberta Students' Newspaper Since 1910



Jeff Cowley

He is a legend in his own time. Every year of his undergrad career, engineering student Steve Drake wore a Hawaiian shirt to class. In honor of this fashion fetish, electrical and chemical engineers set aside a day of summertime garb and games, no matter how cold.

Law student breaks free from Lister contract

by Gateway staff

A University of Alberta law student moved out of Lister Hall recently, and received a full refund from Housing and Food Services. There is some disagreement over whether or not this sets a precedent for other residents.

The student claimed that HFS had failed to live up to their end of the standard housing contract in a variety of ways. Most importantly, he claimed that his "quiet" floor on Lister was not suited to his study needs.

He also maintained that HFS had failed to provide him with hot breakfasts or food in Subway, as had been advertised in the Housing and Food brochures.

The student who was unavailable for comment at press time, could not get a satisfactory response from HFS and approached the Students' Union for help. They "backed his request to get the full money refunded," said SU vp external David Tupper.

Lister Hall Students' Association representative Lisa Blum said

that, in her opinion, "a definite precedent has been set" because HFS seems to have defaulted on areas of the contract, specifically the quiet floor clause.

"The floor was not suited to his social level... and Housing and Food had (as a result) broken the contract first," she said.

Moving out of residence is also considered to be breaking the contract, and is punishable by a levy of 15 percent of the remaining balance of the year's room and board. In the case of a Lister resident, the penalty for moving out at Christmas would run to about \$263.

The contract itself continues to be a sore point in the HFS controversy this year. There is no "coherent, cohesive document" according to Tupper. By signing the application form, residents were actually agreeing to abide by tenancy rules, including the vacancy penalty, before they had seen the rules.

As well as the application form

LEASE — p 2

Russell denies retirement means budget concern

by Shannon Taylor

Advanced Education Minister Dave Russell says his retirement plans are not an indication of future hard times for Alberta students.

"We began preparing the budget for the next fiscal year in November, and there is nothing but good news for education in that budget," said Russell, who is also the deputy premier of Alberta.

Earlier this month, Russell said he would not seek re-election in the next provincial election.

Russell is one of many Tory MLAs to announce retirement plans. Opposition critics are claiming the wave of resignations means the MLAs are running from a post-election barebones provincial budget.

Advanced Education opposition critic Gerry Gibeault said the

minister's retirement is a clear signal of future trouble for post secondary education in the province. "There is no question about it. The province is facing substantial budget problems, and future budget cuts will affect education," he said.

Because Alberta has one of the best education systems in Canada, Gibeault said the provincial government will not hesitate to make budget cuts from the department. "Every time they (government officials) talk about cutting back, they say our education system is number one in the country. This is no excuse for complacency or allowing it (the system) to deteriorate," Gibeault said.

However, Russell denies the statements. "There is no validity to that. The operating grant for the next year's budget is the highest it has ever been," he said, adding the five percent increase to advanced education grants announced in December 1988 will allow institutions to do important catch-up work.

But Gibeault is concerned the increases are simply Tory election incentives. "It's the same situation we had last time. The government introduced a good budget, and then — after the election — there were substantial cutbacks," the ND MLA said, referring to the 1987 provincial budget when education grants were slashed by three percent.

Russell agreed the 1987 budget was hard on advanced education in the province. "It was a year we had to go into fiscal restraint... We have managed to stretch our funds out well... We escaped being seriously and permanently damaged, and emerged in good shape," he said.

While critical of some Tory policies regarding post-secondary education, opposition critic Gibeault praised Russell's efforts during his three years as Advanced Education Minister. "In many ways I think he (Russell) has tried to give his best efforts. He was open to meeting with student groups and has to go to bat for extra money for the system."

"He has done some good things," Gibeault said.

After 22 years at the provincial legislature and five years on Calgary city council, Russell said he did not want to commit himself to another four years of politics. "I decided to go back to the real world and give it a try," he said, adding painting, golf, tennis and travel are on his short-term agenda.

While Russell would not speculate on who might be appointed as the next advanced education minister if the conservatives are re-elected, he said the next minister will have excellent post-secondary institutions to work with.

"We have a very strong university with the University of Alberta. It has an excellent national reputation," Russell said.

Council zaps Suzuki

by Mitch Panciuk

Well known environmentalist, scientist, and University of Alberta alumni Dr. David Suzuki has been bumped from a planned February speech at the University.

After heated discussion on the cost and choice of bringing Dr. Suzuki in, Students' Council voted down the motion by referring it back to the Council of Faculty Associations (COFA) committee.

SU vp academic Charles Vethan was responsible for a motion to allocate funds for the appearance. The appearance was set for February 9 to coincide with Education Week activities, and would have cost the SU more than \$8,300. Suzuki's two hour speech was to be titled 'Education in Today's Society.'

"It's really unfortunate that the

COUNCIL — p 2



Dr. Suzuki will eventually speak on campus, but with no help from the Students' Union.

INSIDE

Sports

Hoop teams go O-For-Calgary. pp 13-14

Feature

...and the walls come crumbly down... at the Fac. pp 8-9

Arts

It's udderly art. p 6

News

SU bucks balance? p 3

