

# The Gateway



**Both the Bears & Pandas kick off their soccer seasons this weekend.**

Soccer p.14

## Big withdrawal fight

by Ken Bosman

A showdown is brewing between students and faculty over course withdrawal dates.

A proposal to be debated by the General Faculties Council (GFC) on September 28 would dramatically reduce the period of time students have to decide whether or not to drop a course.

The proposal, which originated with the Registrar's Advisory Committee (RAC) was endorsed by the GFC Executive Committee on September 14.

"The new withdrawal dates would give students only 25 days to evaluate a course, which is kind of scary. That's way before midterms," said SU President and GFC Executive member Tim Boston.

"We're going to do anything we can to stop this," said SU VP Academic Dale Nagel. "We're going to do everything we can to get the students who were elected to GFC to show up for the meeting."

Of about 120 seats on GFC, graduate and undergraduate students hold 49.

The Registrars Advisory Committee, however, sees benefits for students in having less time to drop a course. The RAC report contends that the earlier withdrawal date would "provide more opportunity for the student to benefit in his/her other courses from the reduced course load, and reduce disruption to overall class participation and morale, especially in courses requiring student team projects."

In addition, "The systematic abuse of deadlines by students destroys the department's ability to time table courses effectively," said RAC member P.S. Pearlstone.

Financial concerns also favor an early withdrawal date according to RAC member Dr. K.E. Denford. Late withdrawal from courses results in the "waste of resources in the running of laboratory courses, and is responsible for the waste of thousands of dollars annually in teacher assistanceship assignments, space allocations, and laboratory materials."

Boston, however, disagrees. "The cost savings measures aren't in effect with this proposal. The only way they could save money is if you can cut out the labs. Five weeks into the term is too late to do that."

"Grade shopping" is also an issue with RAC. The RAC recommendations expressed "strong support for the proposal that withdrawal decisions should not be based upon expected grades."

Zoology professor Dr. W.R.

**SHOPPING - p.5**

## Students drink lots

by R. Epp

Students will drink almost \$50,000 worth of beer during Freshman Introduction Week (FIW) estimated VP Internal Rick Stedman, Monday.

Stedman hopes that the Students' Union will sell 2,000 cases of beer at special events set up in the Quad between the science building and Athabasca Hall.

The beer gardens have made a small profit every year since 1981 said Gerry Stoll, SU business manager.

Stoll expects to make around \$5,000 but would be "happy to break even."

Potentially forty five percent of the money raised could go to the



U of A skydiving club - the only way to get campus parking!

inter-Fraternity Council who supply the staff, clean-up crews and security, said Stoll. "Each club is rated on a performance level."

According to Stoll, each Fraternity is guaranteed thirty five per cent commission with no loss, but can pick up a further ten per cent depending on the quality of service they provide.

Beer prices are as low as possible, and have remained unchanged since 1983. However, there may be a price hike in the near future, but not without the consent of the student body, Stoll added.

Beer at the gardens sells at \$2 a glass in order to cover the cost of entertainment, equipment rental, free food and give-aways.

## HUB nears completion

by Brent Fennell

HUB Commercial Mall is in the midst of a reconstruction program which includes a new off loading complex, the enclosure of the 112 Street roadway, and the "total renovation of all the suites", according to Ann Belik, Operations Manager of the HUB Advisory Committee.

Restorations to HUB Mall vary from the resealing of the roofing and skylight to new appliances, cabinets, rugs and tiling in the HUB suites themselves.

New construction on HUB's east end now means the mall has direct access to a specialized off-loading building that is designed to improve the shipping and storage facilities of the mall's merchants.

Renovations to HUB began on May 1 of this year, and while work on the suites will resume on May 1 of next year, the creation of new commercial properties in the 112 Street enclosure will continue throughout the winter. Both the

**HUB - p.5**

## Course evaluations near

by Sherri Ritchie

Course Evaluation Handbooks for U of A students may be ready by next December, says Robert Lea, Academic Affairs Board Member.

The Students' Union has been working on the creation of the handbooks for some time now, and at Tuesday's council meeting they established the position of Coordinator to work full-time on the project.

In August of this year, the SU put together a proposal for an evaluation system, which they presented to the Committee for the Improvement of Teaching and Learning (CITL).

"They did consider it," said Dale Nagle, VP Academic. "There was a lot of discussion on the problem areas . . . They gave us recommendations, but no motions were made."

"We need to do some work and they go back to them (CITL)," said Nagle.

"The problems they saw were mechanical, basically; the ways in which we're going to be doing the survey," said Lea.

Nagle also said confidentiality

was a big concern.

"Instructors do not want to be surveyed," said Lea. "They don't want their results to be made public."

"We feel that is a problem," Lea added. "If you're going to improve teaching, you need public results

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### Inside this issue

**Support for refugees**  
A committee at the U of A hopes to provide a home for student refugees.

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**Funding study**  
U of Calgary claims of funding rip off will be investigated.

**FAIRNESS — p.3**

**Shakespeare**  
A visiting British professor shares his enthusiasm with students.

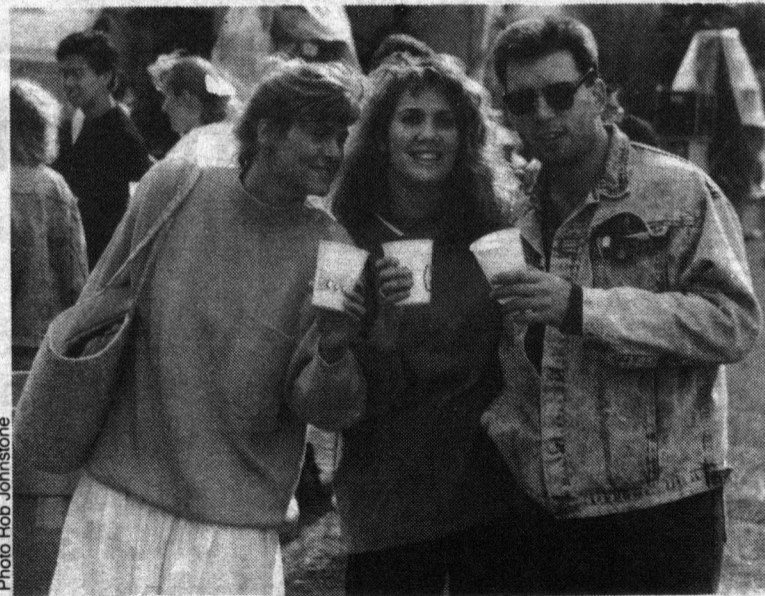
**BARD — p.8**

**Licensed to parent**  
Deer, fish and hot dogs are more important than children.

**LICENSE — p.4**

"I know everyone has their idiosyncrasies, but my roommate seems to have them all."

Anonymous student



Getting "primed" for calculus

## Student services goes

by Ken Bosman

The University of Alberta ranks next to last in expenditures on student services in a comparison with the 18 largest universities in Canada, according to the Canadian Association of University Business Officers (CAUBO).

The CAUBO data, prepared by Statistics Canada, shows that the U

of A spends only six-tenths of its operating budget on student services — barely one third of the national average. Only the University of Saskatchewan spends less.

The late establishment of Student Services at the U of A is blamed for the low budgetary priority assigned. "We didn't even

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Photo Rob Johnstone

File Photo

Dale Nagel