

# Hurt by 'humour' at UBC

VANCOUVER (CUP) — Almost the entire University of British Columbia community has condemned the engineering student

council's newsletter for its racist, sexist and homophobic content. A recent edition of the weekly newsletter featured an "Indian

Application for Employment" on most of the fourth page of the newsletter. The 'humour' item opened by saying it was "not necessary to attach a photo since you all look alike."

The "application" goes on to ask applicants to choose which statement reflects their "approximate estimate of income." They can choose from "welfare," "theft," "unemployment" and "beer bottles."

Under "abilities" the choices allowed were "demonstration leader," "pimp," "evangelist," "rapist," "chief beer drinker," "sleeping in bar."

"At first I felt profound shock and then hurt. I couldn't believe this could happen in the 1990s," said Bev Scow, president of the Native Indian Student Union. "And then anger set in."

"(Degradation) is a tactic used to illegitimize the role of the first nations' people," said Scow. "It's political and cultural genocide."

The UBC administration also denounced the newsletter.

"Certainly, the people in the (president's) office find it distaste-

viduals responsible for the publication."

The UBC president has the power to refuse to collect fees for a



ful and disgusting and are asking how we can stop this from repeating itself," said UBC vice-president K. D. Srivastava.

Dean Axel Meisner, asked to investigate the incident, said, "I do not consider this publication a prank. And because it was produced by the EUS, I hold the indi-

society that publishes racist, sexist, or homophobic material, which could apply to the engineering student council's \$32,000 of student fees.

UBC vice president Daniel Birch said it was too early to tell whether the council would lose their funding.

Engineering student council president Darren Sanders said the application form, as well as several similarly offensive jokes were mistakes. "We are not trying to defend what's happening, but are taking quick action."

Sanders said the council executive has decided to issue a letter of apology.

Sanders hoped the university would not withdraw funding and would take into account the speed with which the EUS are trying to rectify the problem.



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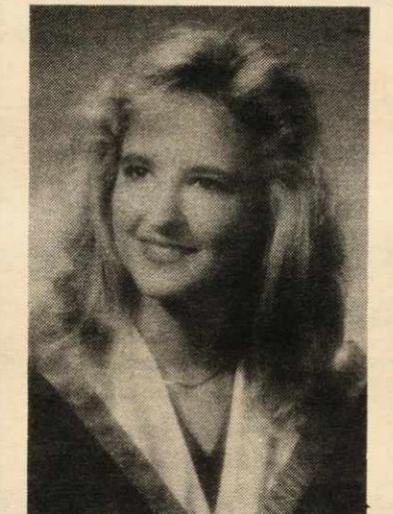
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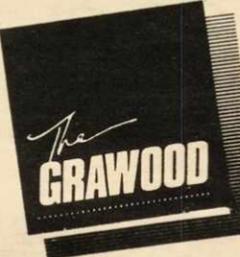
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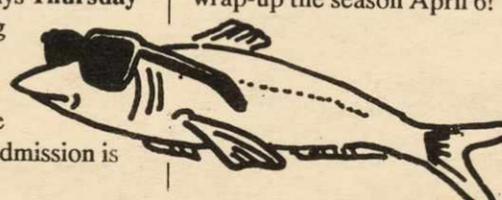
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