

The Gateway



The eighth annual Third World Film Festival comes to campus this weekend. P8

Fun and Science Week

by Roberta Franchuk

The second annual Science Olympics will be one of the events held during Science Week, March 7 to 11.

The week kicks off with Lab Coat Day, March 7. All students are asked to wear their lab coats to classes. At 12 noon there will be a gathering of lab-coated students in the main foyer of the Biological Sciences Building, in preparation for a "lab coat invasion."

On March 10 a Scavenger Hunt and Car Pub Rally will be held, with teams of students trying to gather the largest number of strange items on their scavenger lists.

A wind-up bash will close off the week. It will be held in the Centre Wing Cafeteria to the Bio Sci Building, at a time that will be announced.

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The Science Olympics will run all week, with teams of four competing in various events.

Science Week is organized by the Undergraduate Science Society, and events are open to all science students.

"There are a lot of different things we're trying this year," said Chris Lidstone, VP Activities of the USS. "We're trying to boost our profile... science students are pretty apathetic."

In addition to the events during Science Week, on March 23 the Science hockey team will be challenging K-97 in a game in West Edmonton Mall at 8 p.m.

"It will be a lot of fun," emphasized Lidstone.



The Bears can advance to the nationals if they beat Calgary this weekend. See P15. Photo Rob Galbraith

For the health of it

by Lisa Shapka

Milk guzzling competitions, balloon shaving duels, popcorn eating contests, and memory testing are just a few of the sights you might encounter during Health Week.

Students from Dental Hygiene, Home Economics, Pharmacy, Nursing, Dentistry, Physical Education and Recreation, Medicine, and Rehabilitational Medicine are ga-

thering on the main floor of CAB each day from 12 noon.

Health Week, running from March 14 to March 18, will also feature special groups such as "Alcohol Awareness" and "Poison PAC" to teach students about health awareness.

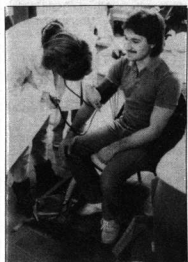
Each group will be displaying certain aspects of health with pamphlets and samples.

The theme of the week is: "Health, you need your body!" and promotion and health awareness are the main goals.

Various activities will commence at 12:15 p.m. from the main floor of CAB.

If Health Week hasn't prompted your body knowledge, there is a Health theme at Goose Loonies on Thursday, March 18 with specials on drinks.

Tickets will be on sale during Health Week with proceeds going to the Edmonton Youth Shelter and various other charities.



Have your fitness tested during Health Week.

CONTENTS

RESEARCH

Cardiovascular and diabetes research at the U of A has been hampered due to lack of funds P2

PHOTO

Gateway photographers exhibit their talents P7

FILM

Sammy and Rosie get Laid is a provocative portrayal of turbulent relationships P9

FEATURE

Dr. Owen Beattie talks about his search for the Franklin Expedition ... PP 10-11

WCT deadline shortened

by Ken Bosman

The Writing Competency Test has received a strong vote of confidence from the General Faculty Council.

GFC also shortened to eight months the time most new students will have to pass the WCT.

This change was adopted as part of the recommendations resulting from the annual review of the WCT by the GFC.

"During this review we never seriously considered abolishing the WCT," said U of A VP Academic Peter Meekison. "In the past each time we reviewed it abolition was discussed."

Dr. D. A. Fisher, the chair of the GFC Writing Competency Committee disagreed with the shortened

deadline. "As Chair, I'm not as enthusiastic as I should be. Eight months is just too short."

The eight month deadline makes the WCT "all but an entrance exam" said Fisher.

U of A Registrar Brian Silzer, who will now handle WCT deadline extension requests, felt the shortened deadlines would be good for students. "Many problems were because students didn't understand the deadlines."

Charles Vethan, the Students' Union Academic Commissioner, endorsed the proposals to shorten the deadline, but attacked the exam as being too easy. "I question if the skills you need to pass the WCT are adequate for University," said Vethan. "If you can write a coherent

sentence, you can pass the exam."

U of A President Myer Horowitz agreed saying, "at the extreme we're talking about grade eight English, maybe grade six" needed to pass the WCT.

How to help students with poor English skills meet the deadline was also a concern of several GFC members.

"People with serious problems now have only a few months—remediation does take time," said Fisher. "Failing the WCT is not a good thing—it makes students uptight—that's why so many students wait till the deadline."

One GFC member asked why there could not be an English course students could take which would be equivalent to the WCT.

"Because we'd have to offer university courses at the grade eight level," said Horowitz.

The validity of the WCT was also challenged by WCT Chair Fisher. "It increases the anxiety function. I had two native students who failed the test but I knew darn well that they could write term papers."

"It's a good test," said Associate VP Academic Amy Zelmes. "Every measure we have says it's valid."

Many members of GFC expressed frustration with the whole WCT question, which has been considered 117 times by GFC, GFC Exec, and the Academic Development Committee in the last five years.

"When we first got into this many years ago the then VP Academic Baldwin said our major goal should be to get out," said Horowitz.

"I think a PhD could be written on this process" said Meekison. "There's enough here."

Council denies subsidy for Caldicott speech

by Gateway staff

Students' Council rejected a bid to subsidize student tickets for peace activist Dr. Helen Caldicott's April 10th speech at the Jubilee auditorium.

The Canadian Peace Project, who are sponsoring Caldicott's national tour, requested the SU to subsidize student tickets by \$3 each, up to a maximum expense of \$3000. Under the proposed arrangement students would have purchased tickets for \$4, resulting in the CPP receiving the full \$7 ticket price.

"We don't subsidize outside activist groups," said SU VP Finance Steve Twible to Council. "If Council wants to support this group, then vote for the motion—if not, let's talk about it."

CPP spokesperson Brian Toole, in his presentation to Council, said that the SU's subsidy would provide an excellent opportunity for students to hear a really dynamic speaker at a reasonable price.

Toole understood Council's decision: "I can think of five or six

reasons why Students' Council wouldn't sponsor it." He hopes to work with the SU in distributing the tickets.

Caldicott is a former director of Physicians for Social Responsibility and author of *Nuclear Madness* and *Missile Envy*. She is better known for narrating the Academy

Award winning film *If You Love This Planet*. The film was labeled "propaganda" by the U.S. State Department.

Caldicott last spoke in Edmonton at the Buttedome in 1984. The event was sponsored by the SU and drew a crowd of 3200, mostly students.



Brian Toole and Dr. Moe Bowers present their case to council.

This could be suffering.
This could be pleasure.
I'm unaware of any difference.
The Who
Daily Records