

How 'bout them Blue Jays, honey?



# The Gateway

Wednesday, October 16, 1985.

Darling, you're premier now—don't be a stupid jock!

Okay, dear.

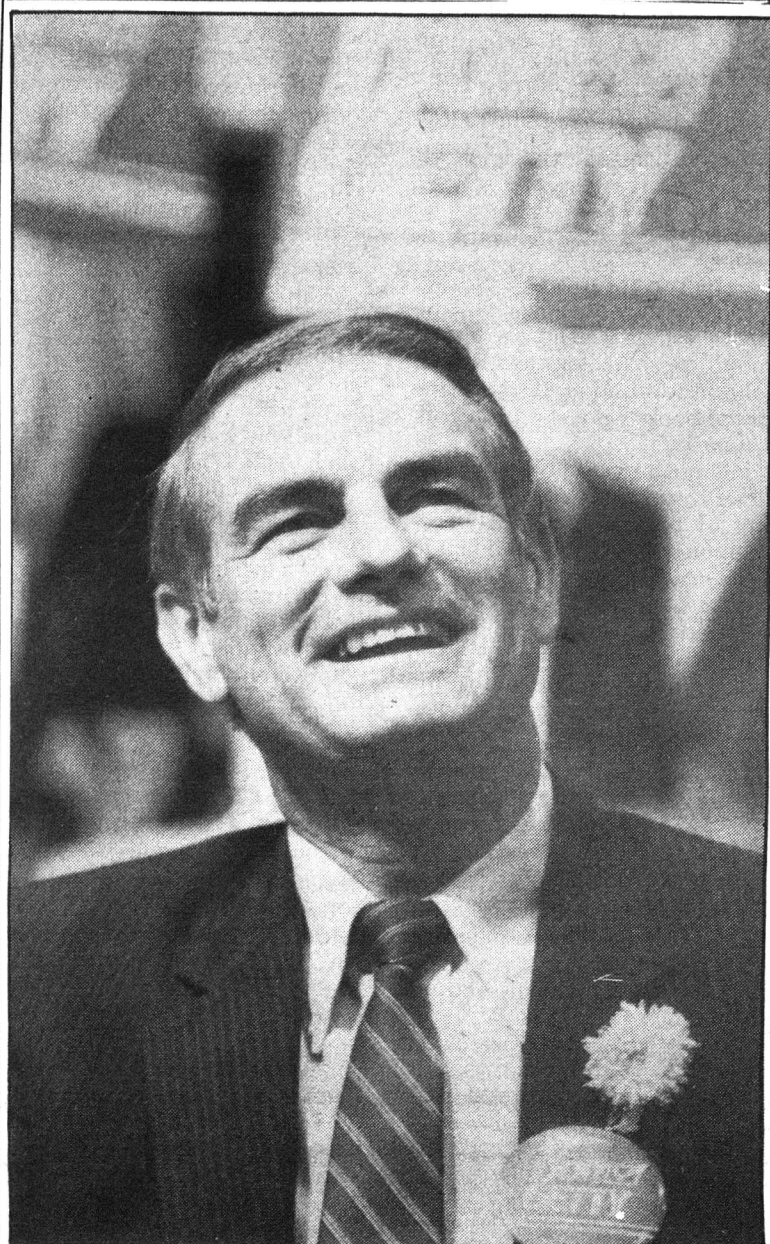


Photo Bill St. John

## The acceptance speech Don Getty never gave:

To all the delegates who voted for me, I'd like to offer my deepest heart-felt thanks. And to all those who *didn't*, well, I'd just like to say: "You bastards, you're finished! You'll never work in this province again, you \*!#&\*\*\*!! backstabbers! Never! NEVER!

Writing Competency Exam deadline

## Write or walk for some

by Andrew Spence and Bill Doskoch

Students who registered in 1983 or 1984 and who have not yet passed their Writing Competency Exam may face expulsion if they fail this time.

The last opportunity to write the test is Nov. 28 and 29 and students who fail that installment of the test will not be allowed to continue in their studies, according to a statement issued by the Registrars Office.

"If anyone wants to know whether the University means business on this," said Registrar Brian Silzer, "the answer is absolutely yes."

There were up to three opportunities for remedial work and re-testing if a person failed the original exam, Silzer said. "We're not being unreasonable at all in expecting this level of performance from people who hope to graduate from here."

There are an estimated 400 students who are likely to be affected by this policy and if they receive a grade of marginally unsatisfactory, they may appeal to the Dean of their faculty stating why they should not be required to withdraw from university.

According to VP Academic Caroline Nevin, the faculties are not prepared to deal with those students or may not be willing to hear appeals.

The SU has a no policy concerning the test, but Nevin felt a passing grade in a junior level English course should be considered as evidence the student can write competently.

"The writing competency test is a result of an inadequate secondary education. High Schools have failed to prepare students for the demands of a university education and thus students are being unfairly

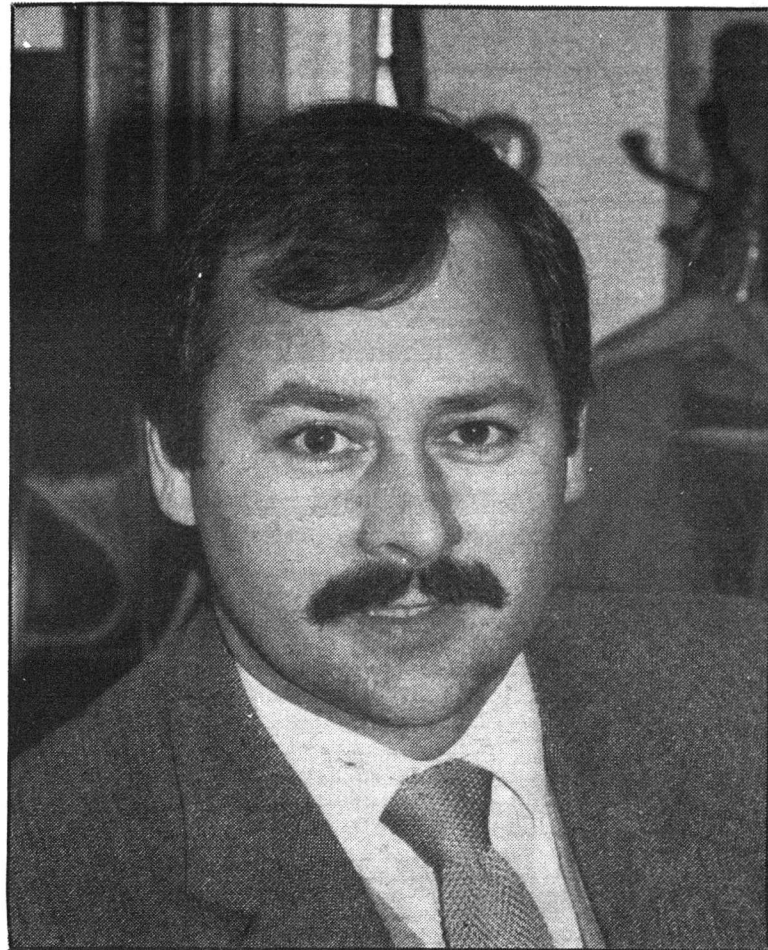


Photo Bill St. John

Registrar Brian Silzer: "If anyone wants to know whether the University means business on this, the answer is absolutely yes."

penalized for being unable to write competently."

Current SU policy will concentrate on informing those students and the time scale involved, plus the consequences of not taking any action.

However, Silzer said he had been corresponding directly with the affected students and added they had "two-and-a-half years to contemplate this deadline."

Ironically, the SU also finds itself

as unprepared as the faculties with regards to dealing with the problem immediately.

"The machinery to deal with this problem should have been established by the previous SU executive, who failed to take any action on this issue," said Nevin.

Nevin suggested that they students who think they might be affected by the test should contact the Registrars Office as soon as possible.

## Universities Week - events for all

by Jennifer Strain

A thick cloud of gloom will no doubt descend upon campus next week as mid-terms assail us, but don't let this prevent you from partaking in National Universities Week, October 19-27.

Campuses all across the country will be hosting distinguished visitors, lectures, recreational events, debates, forums, information sessions, concerts, theatre and art displays.

"All these events are not only for students but for the public as well," said VP External Gayle Morris. The objective of National Universities Week is to nurture involvement of both the University and the Community."

"The University is a vital organ of the entire community body. It is a source of information and ideas, and this is our chance to bring the public in and share things with them," said Dr. G. Moss, Associate Dean, External Relations in the Faculty of Science and co-ordinator of this years events.

Generally, faculties and factions on campus have responded positively to the idea and have taken the initiative to organize activities.

"A lot of faculties liked the idea of getting the government involved by bringing in speakers to give non

political talks," said Morris. "Unfortunately, I've sent letters to nine cabinet ministers, and the replies I've received thus far have been negative."

"It's a bad time because of the Convention," she said.

Unbeknownst to many people, there was a National Universities Week 2 years ago. Since then the idea has been to have it every other year. It gets support from the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada. Other provincial and national organizations of the private sector, and the provincial and federal governments lend support as well.

"This year," said Moss, "it has been coordinated much more extensively, and has been six months in organization."

"The Public Affairs Office here is working on promotion," he said. Across the Province, weekly and daily papers will cover it, including the *Journal* which will feature a two page spread and calendar of events.

At U of A there are over 35 events scheduled during or around National Universities Week. The bicycle Tour de Campus will take place October 20 and is open to families. The World University Services Caravan featuring crafts from third world countries, will be in

HUB Mall on the 25 and 26. Profits will go to aid these underdeveloped countries.

In the Business foyer and on main floor SUB on October 30-31, the students Union Volunteer Fair will have information booths set up. The United Way, Volunteer Action Centre, Cross Cancer Institute and the Alberta Mental Health Association and others will be recruiting volunteers.

On the evening of October 17 in SUB Theatre there will a senate debate featuring U of A debating club member D'Arcy Keane, Prof. Ros Sydie, Prof. L. Pollock, Louise Desrochers, Peter Hemingway, Betty Hewes and Stephen Hume. The resolution is an intriguing one: "A university education is a luxury and is not essential to success".

The U of A Stage Band will get exposure at West Edmonton Mall on October 24. Approximately six ethnic dance groups will encourage audience participation in a dance fest at the van Vliet Centre on October 27.

Guest lecturers include Dr. Norman Borlaug, winner of a Nobel Peace Prize, speaking on "Food Production Problems in Developing Nations" on October 22 in the Humanities Centre.

Another informative guest will David Mesinger on October

28 in SUB Theatre talking about "The Heresy of Apartheid".

As well, various departments will be extending classes to the public next week, Religious Studies being one example.

"It's up to all universities across the country to come forward and collectively promote awareness and welcome the community." Whet-

her or not we make an impact will depend on the interest generated next week," said Moss.

This University could use a little spirit injection and National Universities Week is a chance to give it a shot. Only a few events have been highlighted above. Details can be obtained by contacting the Public Affairs Office at 432-2325.

## Asbestos hazard

by Elaine Ostry

"It was horrible...right above my head was asbestos," said Ms. Kettle Ross, her dark eyes angry as she described working conditions in Art Workshop III of Athabasca Hall.

She worked there as a student of painting in the fall of 1983, and claims that she was then exposed to airborne asbestos.

Asbestos is a dangerous chemical substance used for insulation and fireproofing, on pipes, etc... It is hazardous only when breathed as dust. Asbestos particles are microscopic and made up of fibres that resemble fish hooks. When inhaled, they bore little holes into the victim's flesh. They remain in there forever, and may cause asbestosis, mesothelioma, and cancer of the lungs.

These painful respiratory diseases could be fatal. It is believed that even short, light exposures are harmful.

Dr. M.F. Stenton of the National Institute of Health claims that asbestos is second only to cigarette smoke as the most lethal known carcinogen. The diseases caused by asbestos exposure may affect the victim even forty years after exposure.

Asbestos is a major public health problem. But asbestos — related diseases are preventable, provided that measures are taken to avoid the breathing of asbestos dust in the environment. It is up to the management to provide a safe area for its workers and students.

Ross suspected that loose  
continued on page 3