

# Cutbacks irk education groups

by Brad Johnson

The general reaction to the proposed Provincial Government budget cuts on education of 3 per cent has been one of shock and dismay.

Anti-Cutbacks Team Chairperson Martin Levenson called the cuts "unthinkable". Due to inflation and an increase in the number of students, "a 3 per cent cut might as well be a 10 per cent cut."

The announcement of the budget cuts, which came on Friday, came early as well.

"We were told they'd be making their decisions on the week of the 15th or the 16th (of January)," said Levenson.

Levenson said it was "a move that makes Alberta's economy less competitive."

SU VP External Mike Hunter said "We never expected cuts of anywhere near this magnitude."

"The SU council position is that the budget should keep pace with the rate of inflation," he said. "There's our (Alberta's) path to economic diversification."

Nadene Thomas of the Alberta Teachers' Association said "My general reaction is that a 3 per cent reduction is certainly a great deal better than a 5 or 10 per cent reduction."

However, "over the last 4 or 5 years, we have, in education, already done more than our share in seeing that expenditures were cut back," she said, "and I believe that it is not fair, now, to expect us to

take the same kind of cutbacks as everybody else."

As for previous suggestions that there might be higher cuts, she said "the point was to soften up the population so they would be very willing to accept a rollback which was smaller."

Bill Duke, Assistant Deputy

Minister of Education said "I believe that education has done its share (of budget restraint). We're pleased the government saw fit to concede to school boards a September 1st starting time for effecting the cuts."

Of the actual effect of the cuts on quality of education, he said "We don't know that."

Due to inflation, "There is no question that the cut is larger than what we're talking about... we're talking a reduction in dollars coming from the province," said Duke.

In a statement prepared Friday, VP Academic Peter Meekison said "We sympathise with the government's predicament and appreciate

this advance information."

"There will have to be adjustments to programs and student fees will increase," he said. However, "Our enrollment increased this year and we have not received an adjustment for this."

**latros covers syndromes and surgery**

## Med students start journal

by Roberta Franchuk

The medical students at the U of A have begun publishing their own medical journal.

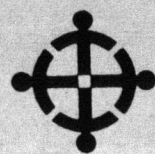
Called *Iatros*, after the Greek word for physician, the journal's founding patrons are the Medical Alumni Association and the alumni of the class of '45 and January '46. The journal is viewed as a forum where students can get practice at writing clinical and research articles. Alumni contributions are also

featured.

The first issue, which came out in December '86, generated "a lot of enthusiasm", said Susan MacLellan, a member of the editorial board. The second issue is planned for April.

The idea "had been kicking around since last summer (of 1985)" said MacLellan, "and we started work on it in August of '86."


Editors-in-chief Lyndsay Harris and Susan Kuhn, and a staff of 18



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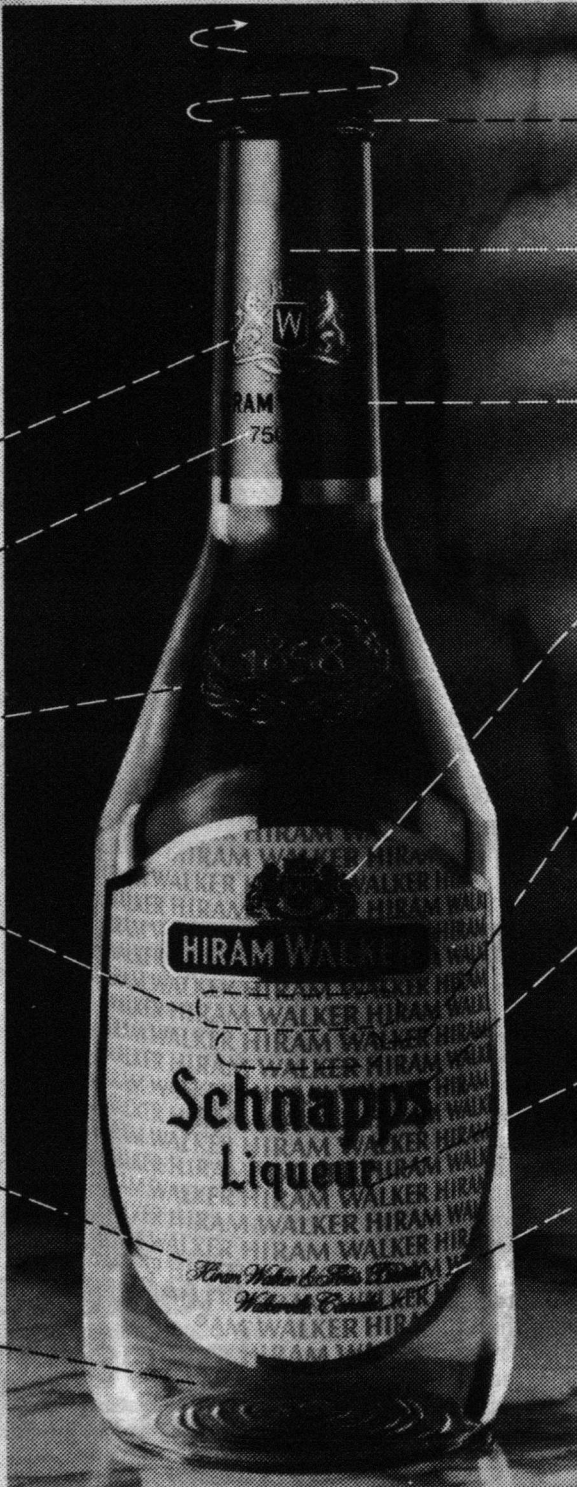
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