

news

SU denies RATT leased

A confidential source told gateway last week that the Students' Union intends to close down the Student Union tavern, Room At The Top (RATT) and lease the space to a private entrepreneur to provide the same service.

It said the Students' Union executive would do this in order to avoid having to deal with the part time RATT workers who are now certified under the union classification in CUPE 1368 pending a recent Board of Industrial Relations decision. before the B.I.R. decision

CUPE 1368 only represented 38 full time SU employees; the decision increases union membership to about 150 members.

Students' Union president Jay Spark firmly denied the rumor, saying that the executive intended no such change. He said that RATT has been too much of a money making operation to be closed down.

Harry Goldberg, general manager of the Students' Union also denied the rumour, "that's a bunch of garbage", he said.

National unity open forum

The University is inviting public to participate in an forum entitled National Unity and the West in Con- sideration, Saturday in the ater Vip room on campus.

Enrolment is limited to 60, it is sponsored by the Canada West Foundation in co- operation with the General Alumni Association of the Un- versity.

A \$20 fee which includes working papers, luncheon, and coffee should be remitted with the registration form. Cheques should be made payable to the University of Alberta.

Further information may be obtained from Dr. W.A. Preshing at the same address or phone 432-5295.

Biko's death questioned

South Africa's explanation the death of political prisoner even Biko is false, says African ation Congress (ANC) okeman George Poonen.

Poonen said he knew the nditions in South African isons and did not believe the vernment explanation that ko had died of a self imposed inger strike.

Poonen spoke about his tainment in South Africa in 64 at a memorial service for ko in the Students' Union editation room yesterday.

Biko, arrested March 21 of is year for obstruction of vice in the 1976 trial of embers of the South African udents Association, was ported dead last Thursday.

After the service many of e 31 people in attendance ned a telegram to be sent to e South African minister of vice, Kruger, censuring him



George Poonen.

for the murder of Biko. Besides the memorial speech by Poonen prayers and a passage from the new testa- ment were read.



Native religions discussed

Delegates from as far as Arizona discussed native religious traditions at a sym- posium this weekend at the U of A.

The symposium was organized as part of the Univer- sities commemoration of treaty VII, signed in 1877 which recognized native culture as a vital and continuing element in Canada's makeup.

Some 125 delegates attend- ed the symposium to hear

academics discuss aspects of various native religion ranging from the sand painting rituals of the Najaho tribe to the pipe ceremony of the Objibwas, and speak with some of the tribal elders.

Dr. Earle Waugh, coordin- ator, termed the symposium a

success. He said he was im- pressed with the quality of the speakers and the delegates.

"After an assessment of this year's symposium, said Mr. Waugh," we will consider

proposals for a possible sym- He said one idea, would be to have the academics meet the

elders in a nonacademic environ- ment to be shown some of the

rituals as they are performed. This would be the opposite approach to that taken this year.



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