

# STREET BEEF

The Gateway approached several U of A students and asked the question: What do you think of the recent SU Executive pay hike? (For details of pay hike see editorial, opposite page, and cover story).

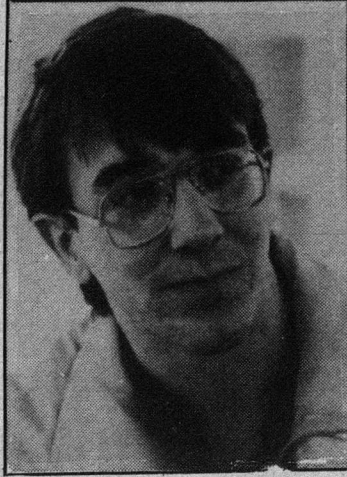


Carmela Haykowsky

They're not worth that amount. There has to be better ways to spend the money than to put it in wages.

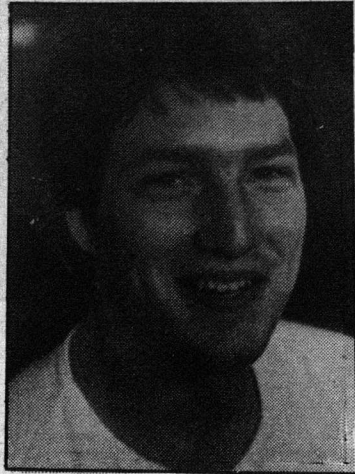
It's not such a bad idea, because they're losing some educational opportunities. To get some good people in there, you're going to have to pay them good wages.

Mark Fletcher



Ross Crockford

That just strikes me as them training themselves to be future politicians. Whether they earn it or not, I can't say. Their difficulty is proving that they earn it. I'm sure that they'll have no difficulty rationalizing the pay hike.



photos Angela Wheelock

## WHAT'S LEFT

by Mike Walker

### As long as the Engineers do it, we have to fight it

Once again Engineering Week has sparked a controversy over sexism — whether Engineering Week activities are sexist, and if so, what can be done about it.

Why do they do it? Every year, the engineers find a new way to offend. One year it's the traditional female "kick-lines," another year it's an article about raping children in the Engineering Week paper, and this year it was Skit Night, which featured a variety of violent and insulting items about women. Why? In the first place, the vast majority of engineers are male. They live in a special kind of world where women for the most part are not real breathing people who they relate to as human beings, but rather outsiders from other faculties. There is a boys' club atmosphere in the faculty, and more than a hint of siege mentality — engineers against the world. This is encouraged, in the name of "faculty spirit", by both the faculty and the Engineering Students' Society. It is one of the main facets of the initiation of first year students.

Of course, while this may explain the perennial outrages of Engineering Week, it doesn't excuse a thing. Some people, however, do have excuses. Among the excuses are ESS president Howard Krone's question, "What is racist or sexist? Whose definition do we use?" and the common retort, "It's just good fun - loosen up!" These excuses are patently absurd. Last week's skit night was not a borderline event with sexist undertones, subject to differing interpretations. It was blatantly and violently insulting to women. One hesitates to use examples, but sticking things into rubber dolls obviously is acting out rape. If that is humorous, one wonders what Mr. Krone does for fun in his free time.

Then there is the comment that "women

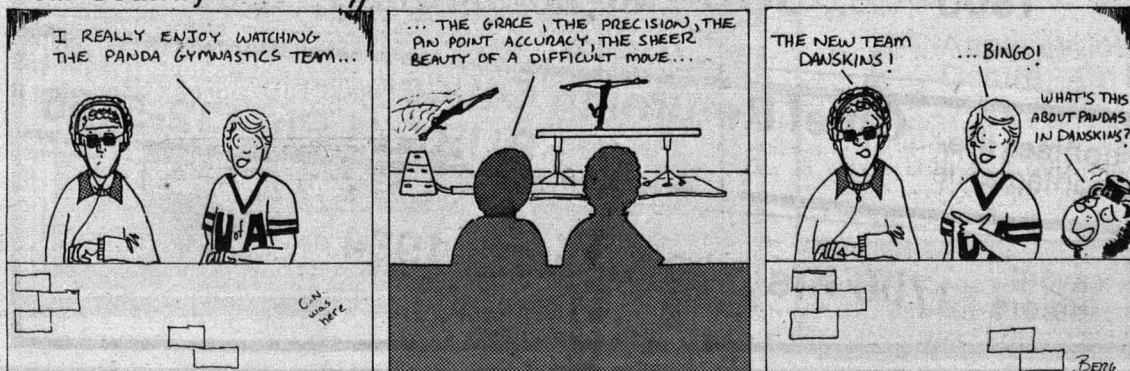
engineering students don't mind it." Women engineers are isolated in a faculty full of men; above all they have to fit into the boys' club, and this means acting like the boys and having their kind of fun. This is sad, even tragic, and it certainly doesn't excuse the actions of male engineers. If anything, it's a further indictment of the men in the faculty.

Finally there is the opinion of a Gateway letter-writer, that "you can't fight it so just avoid it - don't make a fuss." This response is timid, although understandable from women who feel they can't fight back against male aggression in general. But women who object *must* fight back because sexism in entertainment is part and parcel of women's subjugation in our society. It conditions both women and men to accept passive roles for women, and to accept men's right to dominate and violate women. And worse, it allows men to legitimize their violent feelings toward women in the face of women's rising strength as a group. If women don't fight back when they are insulted and intimidated by violent and sexist images, they are forced down a rung on the ladder to full equality.

Women (and men who oppose sexism) have to exert pressure in any and every way to stop these attacks on women (and mock rapes are clearly an attack on women). A good example is the Students' Union's building policy which bans sexist, racist or degrading events from SUB. This policy was adopted by our representatives on Council after much debate around the campus. When the SU fails to enforce it, as it did in allowing Skit Night to go ahead in SUB Theatre, we should damned well be outraged. But it shouldn't stop there. All university buildings and activities should be covered by similar policies. Fewer and fewer women are willing to put up with being degraded or insulted, and they are demanding a stop to images which promote violence against them. They shouldn't for a moment let up the fight.

### Bear Country

by Shane Berg



## Yet another GREAT Rugby BASU

Sat. Jan. 28th, Host - The Tigers

Happy Hour - 4:30 - 7:30 p.m.

Rugby Film shown every Sunday at 2 p.m. and repeated every Thursday at 7 p.m.

Ellerslie Rugby Park (1 km west of Highway 2 South on Ellerslie Road) Ellerslie Road & 111 Street, South Edmonton - 988-5245

NOTE - This luxurious Clubhouse is available to rent.

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Men - cut - \$10.00

Ladies - cut - \$12.00

Men's shampoo/cut/style \$12.00

Ladies' shampoo/cut/style \$15.00

Perms \$35.00 - \$40.00

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**HUB MALL**

## Dewey's

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A \$100.00 certificate will be awarded for the name used.