

# Alta. students join Funding Quest

by Wes Oginski

Students across the province will congregate to march on legislature Thursday.

Anne McGrath, executive officer for the Federation of Alberta Students (FAS), announced last Friday that students from the University of Alberta, U of Calgary, U of Lethbridge, and Grand Prairie Regional College will participate in the March 11 demonstration.

The march is part of the National Week of Action (March 8-12) organized by student groups across Canada. The Week is meant to publicize funding problems at Canadian post-secondary institutions.

"The Week is the focus of a year long campaign," elaborates U of A SU v.p. External, Lisa Walter. Demonstrations have been staged earlier this year across the country. This includes marches in the Atlantic provinces and the education rally in Rutherford Library at the U of A.

"We hope to give a clear message of our concern," says McGrath.

"We need public support for this issue (funding)," Walter adds.

Other major concerns of the Week of Action includes the current Federal/Provincial negotiations of shared fiscal arrangements (Established Program Financing). The federal government has threatened to reduce its EPF contribution, while the Saskatchewan government is the only provincial government to pledge to make up for any federal cuts.

EPF is a package of programs that includes the portfolios of post-secondary education, health, and social services. Walter says in times of economic restraint, "university funding is one of the first candidates to be cut."

Negotiations for Student Assistance is another major concern.

McGrath stresses that students do not expect immediate results. She says it more in the "long term for guarantees for universities and colleges in the future."

Here at the U of A, classes have been cancelled from 12:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. Thursday, March 11 by the General Faculties Council.

Students will then assemble outside the south end of HUB at 12:45 p.m. A short rally will take

place, and the march will begin.

The march route leads south from HUB, down 112 St. to 87 Ave., east to 109 St. and north across the High Level Bridge to the Legislature grounds.

At the Legislature Building's north steps another rally will be held featuring Rick Flett (President, Grand Prairie Regional College SU), James Horsman (Alberta's Minister of Advanced Education and Manpower), Lorraine Mitchell (FAS President), Jean Munn (U of CSU v.p. External), Grant Notley, (provincial New Democratic Party leader), Lisa Walter, and an unconfirmed federal representative.

Grand Prairie's participation is a surprise according to McGrath.

The College is expected to face a \$900,000 deficit next year and must cut six courses. This prompted students to announce they will boycott classes on March 11 and send representatives to the march.



At the forefront of the student movement: (l to r) Lisa Walter, Anne McGrath, and Don Millar. Belying Millar's usual wry exuberance, the organizer of Thursday's march on the Legislature seems worn-down from his new-found media star status.

photo Ray Giguere

## Activities to be held across Canada

The National Week of Action activities are planned across the Country.

In British Columbia, students will rally at the provincial legislature in Victoria on March 12. Students at Vancouver Community College will rally on campus March 11. The College is supposed to be closed next year because of severe cuts in post-

secondary education in B.C.

Students in Alberta will march on Thursday.

At the U of A today, students held a funeral procession through campus and an eulogy at University Hall.

According to Don Millar, coordinator of the Alberta Week of Action, the funeral will "symbolize and dramatize the situation

(funding) on this campus."

Millar also explains that the FAS post card campaign is a part of the Alberta participation in the Week.

Saskatchewan's and Manitoba's students are participating in teach-ins and lobbying members of legislature.

The Ontario Federation of Students has called for students to

boycott classes Thursday. Students in Ottawa will march on Queens Park, seat of the provincial government.

Students of Quebec will demonstrate in Sherbrooke, Quebec City, and Montreal.

A rally in Moncton and demonstrations in Nova Scotia highlight participation by the Atlantic provinces.

## CAUT and students share common concerns

by Allison Annesley

"In a general way, the concern of the Canadian Association of University Teachers (CAUT) and that of the students is common - underfunding," says V.G. Gourishanker, president of the Association of Academic Staff of the University of Alberta (AASUA).

CAUT has endorsed this week's National Week of Student Action in support of their common goal, however, AASUA has decided not to take any stand on Thursday's march.

"What's being contemplated is that all of the academic staff associations across the country

will be expressing their concerns about underfunding. It will be left to the individual (associations on) campus to decide how they each wish to express their concerns," Gourishanker explains.

AASUA is planning an intensive evening conference on March 30, as part of the CAUT's National Week of Concern (March 24-31). Jim Horsman, Minister of Advanced Education and Manpower will be the main speaker.

The first part of the evening will consist of topical lectures to be given by two different panel's speakers. The first panel will speak on "The State of the University". The three speakers will be: John Schlosser, chairman

of the Board of Governors; Jean Forrest, chancellor of the university; and Myer Horowitz, president of the University.

The second panel will discuss "Dimensions of the Challenge Facing the University During the 1980's". The three speakers will be: Gordon Kaplan, vice president for research; R. Schneck, associate dean of Business Administration and Commerce, and Dr. Henry Kreisel, a professor in the Arts faculty. These three panelists will address research, manpower training, and the humanizing influence of university.

"The important point", Gourishanker says, "is that this conference will be limited. We're inviting 200 leaders of the com-

munity, including business people, MLA's, aldermen, members of the media, and members of the senate."

The conference theme is, "The U of A in the 1980's: Challenges in a Changing Society."

The objectives of the conference will be explained by the academics. Horsman's speech will be the closing event of the evening and it is hoped that his speech will reflect the government's position on the issue.

Says Gourishanker, "The CAUT Board of Directors supports the students' lobbying in their efforts to try and retain Established Programs Financing (EPF) funding."

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## Olivia Butti's Diary

March 6

Dear Diary:

I'm so happy I'm just in heaven, I really am. I've just come home from the most marvelous show. It's the best I've ever seen and that includes the time Petey and I went to Las Vegas and saw Sammy Davis Jr. This was a musical spectacular extravaganza called *Jesus, Jesus, Jesus!*

As the "Heavenly Hosts", Tex Humbard and Priscilla Bryant said, the show was "not an imitation but a tribute to the greatest God of our time." It worked like this: the show was divided into three sections. In each, an actor portraying baby Jesus, young Jesus and then adult Jesus sang the lyrics of the Lord in front of the band, the Holy Rock and Rollers. Now diary, you know that I'm not one for this rock music stuff; give me Kay Kaiser or Lawrence Welk any day. Still this was such an uplifting, authentic experience that I loved every second of it.

The actor who played baby Jesus (I guess he was a midget) looked so cute in his leather swaddling clothes. You could just feel the excitement of that first Christmas as Jesus sang, "Born to be God." The young Jesus who did "Gotta sing, Gotta Preach" in the temple was also very good

although I don't think he really looked the part as he was a bit swarthy. Petey thought he looked too Jewish.

But the adult Jesus was absolutely Believable. His gold lame robes and sequined crown of thorns reflected light better than those glow in the dark statuettes we bought the kids for confirmation. The importance and seriousness of Jesus' message really came through when he sang, "Stairway to Heaven" and "Hey, You, Get Up on My Cloud". We also saw his human side when he sang, "Me, it's Hard to be Humble When You're Perfect in Every Way."

The finale was the best. Jesus was up on a neon cross singing, "All Hung Up." Then he came down to give a little speech. He told the audience that even though Jesus had died he would never be forgotten as long as his words and music stayed in our hearts. Even now, with that scandalous book out about Jesus and Mary Magdalene marrying, the true meaning of Jesus is how we remember him. Then he rose up to Heaven singing "I Did It God's Way" as the audience threw palm leaves onto the stage.

Isn't it wonderful that good classy, meaningful shows like this are coming to Edmonton. To see Jesus born again like this will be the cultural highlight of 1982, I'm sure.