

gateway

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Now I wanna sniff some glue...

...now I wanna have something to do.

Ramones

Computing Services crowded

by Cheryl Parsons

Increased enrollment in computing courses is making it even more difficult for students to obtain terminal space.

"We're being heavily loaded, but we're getting by," said Dr. Dale Bent, Director of Computing Services.

Enrollments in computing courses increased from 4500 to

6200 this year with no corresponding increase in terminal space.

Only 100 terminals were added last year at Assiniboia Hall for the use of computing science students. According to one member of the Computing Department, "350 is a lot closer to the number needed to accommodate these increases."

The key problem hours are

from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM.

"Waiting till the last minute to do assignments and not utilizing week-end hours causes many of the line-ups," suggested Bent.

Need for terminals has increased as well because all first year science students can take computing this year, says Janet LaValley, Secretary of the U of A Computing Society.

Despite higher enrollment, class sizes are down. Due to extra funding and more instructors, a 100 person class last year could now be expected to be about 60. Unfortunately, the drop-out rate is high which leads to difficulty in assessing class sizes and lab needs.

The eagerness to get into computing science may be a result of the myth that there are un-

limited opportunities in this field.

Admitted LaValley, "the job situation is getting worse. However, the high enrollments don't affect the job scene as much because so many computing students drop out before completing the program."

Another area of concern is the consulting budget. The consulting service provides help to mostly first year students with simple computing problems.

"The budget for consulting has been cut from \$9000 to \$3500," said Robert Hart, a member of the Computing Society. "It's the first year's who are really getting hit," he added.

This year most consulting is handled by 3rd and 4th year computing students, as opposed to graduate students, as in the past.

Despite difficulties with terminals, it was agreed that Computing Services was doing a top-rate job servicing and keeping the terminals always ready for use.

"It's a really excellent service," said Hart.

Professor indecent

Regina (CUP) - Police have charged a University of Regina sociology professor with 13 counts of gross indecency.

Professor John Warner was charged Sept. 28 after a five month investigation. The University administration suspended Warner from his faculty position July 11, also on counts of gross indecency and gross professional misconduct.

Police and university officials will not disclose details of the case, which goes to trial Oct. 17.

Warner has appealed his suspension from the faculty, but the appeal will not be heard until after the trial. Until then, Warner cannot be formally dismissed from the university.

Gross indecency is punishable by a prison term of up to five years.

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photo by Dan Watson

Alberta gov't combats racism

by Ken Lenz

The Alberta Human Rights Commission has recently begun a precedent setting \$540,000 campaign against racism.

The focus of the campaign according to AHRC Chairman Marlene Antonio is "to promote an understanding and tolerance. We want to show Albertans that this province was developed by a number of people with very diverse backgrounds."

First aired about a week and a half ago, a television commercial shows a boy walking up to a typical Albertan house and asking another boy if he can come out to play. The boy replies, "my mother says I have to play with my own kind." The visitor replies, "what's your own kind?" with the boy replying, "I don't know, I thought you were."

This conversation is followed by a voiceover saying, "racism is learned, not inherited."

"The initial commercial has the faces of the boys deliberately veiled," according to Antonio, "we didn't want to single out any particular ethnic group."

The commercial will be followed by several other 'awareness raising' programs.

AHRC Public Relations Officer Pat Sherbin elaborates, "the

campaign, which will run to December 18 will have an educational mandate as well."

"There will be a total of 52 radio profiles on the ethnic and cultural groups which have built Alberta as well as other radio, television, and newspaper ads."

The AHRC also intends to set up a resource centre, publish a booklet and print posters - all on

the theme, "Alberta is for all of us."

Antonio recognizes the campaign will not reach everybody. "It is not aimed at confirmed bigots, nothing will change them."

She adds, "on the other hand, we hope the ads will sensitize the other 90 per cent of the public with problems associated with racism."

Asked whether the James

Keegstra incident had anything to do with the campaign Antonio replied, "No, the commission was struck 18 months before the Keegstra situation occurred. The event did, however, act as a catalyst."

Response to the program has been very good so far, according to Antonio, "for every letter or call we've had complaining about it, we've probably had 50 or more supporting the campaign."

CFS indifference revealed

by Mark Roppel

Most people don't care much about the Canadian Federation of Students.

In a not-completely-scientific poll conducted by the Gateway, exactly half of the people polled either did not know that a referendum on joining CFS was scheduled on Friday, or were undecided.

Of the people who did respond, 60 per cent said they would vote yes. Remember folks, you heard it here first.

The YES people did not have much to say, but on the NO side comments ranged from "it's too left wing" to "four dollars (the membership fee) is a lot of money" to "a friend of mine had that once and it turned him off premarital sex for life."

Some of the undecided students were making efforts to inform themselves. Said one student, "I'm

going to read about it in the Gateway - that's the only paper I read anymore, the New York Times just isn't what is used to be."

YES campaign worker Peter Block was not surprised about the apathy. "It really doesn't surprise me," he said, "we have a lot of work to do informing students."

When asked whether the large number of uninformed students reflected on his ability to campaign, Block countered, "you could say it reflects badly on the Gateway's ability to report."

But this is unlikely, since most respondents were impressed by the objective, illuminating, and extensive coverage in the Gateway.

One student went so far as to compare reading the Gateway to a religious experience.