

The Gateway



The Glass Menagerie is a film made with great skill and integrity.

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Drop deadline tomorrow

by Roberta Franchuk

Students have until Friday to drop first term courses without academic penalty, but will still be penalized financially.

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Once a person contracts the aids virus nothing can be done for them.

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Revolutionary Nicaragua is a country full of complex and contradictory realities.

MAKING WAVES — p.11

MuchMusic used to be a hip station, then they started making some bucks.

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Leaf fans have the same kind of fanaticism normally reserved for the Ayatollah Khomeini or the Chicago Cubs.

Courses dropped after Friday will appear on transcripts with a grade of WF, a failing grade that translates as a one in computation of final grade point average. Courses dropped before Friday are given a grade of W and are not counted towards the grade point average, said Registrar Brian Selzer.

Students who dropped a first term course after October 15 will still be assessed the full fees for the course.

The bookstore will provide a full refund to anyone who brings back their undamaged, unmarked textbooks, with a sales receipt and a copy of their withdrawal forms within seven days of dropping a course.

If the sales slip is not available or the withdrawal form is not presented, the bookstore will offer a 50 percent refund, said bookstore manager Jim Malone.

"The longer the period, the more detailed the scrutiny of the item," said Malone.

The deadline for dropping full year courses is January 12. Students who drop a full year course between Oct. 15 and Jan. 12 will be assigned full fees for the first term, but will not be charged for the second term, said Jeanette Serhan of the Comptroller's Office.

Details of fee assessments and drop deadlines for specific courses can be found in the Calendar.



Air ambulance serves Edmonton

Air Ambulance to relocate

by Tony Yue

The U of A Hospital is looking for a new landing site for its air ambulance.

The air ambulance provides the capability of bringing patients to immediate hospital treatment. Operating since July 1986, the air ambulance, in the form of a helicopter service, has been serving a 200-mile radius around Edmonton.

The present landing site, around Corbett Hall, brings about numerous complaints from residents in that area. The majority of them are concerned about the noises created by the helicopter. Some even worry about the safety standard of the helicopter. Besides, the present landing site, due to future campus planning, will not be available after 1988.

Peter J. Portlock, Special Assistant to the President of the U of A Hospitals, says "in looking for a new landing site for the air ambulance, both community relations, as well as access to the hospital have to be taken into consideration."

With these factors in mind, the hospital staff parkade at 114th Street and 83rd Avenue has been decided as the permanent landing site for the air ambulance.

This relocation, however, has to be approved by the Minister of Transport. Funding has to be arranged, and design problems have to be solved. Nevertheless, the U of A Hospital is optimistic that the relocation can be realized in the near future.

If, for any reason, the site cannot be relocated, the hospital will look for another landing site since the shutdown of such a valuable service will cause inconvenience and, in certain cases, be crucial to a patient's life.

Patients may be critically injured victims of accidents, especially in places which cannot be accessed by other modes of transportation. Others may have been stabilized in another hospital but still need further immediate intensive care.

The air ambulance works in conjunction with the Misericordia Hospital and the Royal Alex Hospital.

Most patients delivered by the air ambulance, however, are treated at the U of A Hospital because the hospital has more advanced equipment — for instance, neonatal treatment and a unique burn treatment centre.

Apart from the air ambulance, road ambulances and fixed-wing aircraft ambulances form the other two modes of patient transport. The air ambulance, however, is the most expensive among the three.

The average cost per trip of air ambulance is about \$3,200. The use of this helicopter service depends on the conditions of the patients and the cost-effectiveness of the transport. Normally, the decision of sending a helicopter has to be promptly made by the physician.

A team of paramedics is sent with the air ambulance. In cases where the patient condition is critical, respirators, physicians and nurses will accompany the trip.

Although the helicopter service is privately owned, the U of A Hospital is the first to have an air ambulance service.



Browsing through SU records inventory.

Photo: Julie Kim

No record profits

by Wayne Allen

SU Records' decreasing profits may have the Students' Union taking another look at their record business.

The profit margin has been decreasing for the past five years, and this year the budget forecasts a zero return.

HUB Mall's lack of accessible parking is one of the main reasons for the store's financial woes, said manager Taras Ostashevsky.

"It's hard to fund promotions out of the university... we're partly inaccessible for non-university clientele."

Prices are another factor. "We just cannot buy albums as cheap as A & A or Sam the Record Man can. An album costs us a dollar more,"

said Tom Wright, SU Business Manager.

"The store has always worked on a very low markup," said Ostashevsky. Marking down albums "cuts into the profits of the store — it's something that's tough to do."

Also, "students on low or fixed incomes have very little money to spend," said Ostashevsky.

The SU franchise boasts the best selection of jazz and Classical records in the city, according to Wright.

"We have a reputation around town as the one place you can turn to for the out of the ordinary," said Ostashevsky.

Wright also said that an independent like SU Records can offer "the personal touch" when dealing with

patrons. SU Records has an inventory valued at \$270,000. Compact discs (CD's) are part of the inventory, but "we are watching them carefully to see if it justifies the money," said Ostashevsky, noting the CD's at \$15 to \$25 each, are a "high ticket item".

From a strictly "business" perspective, said Wright, the money in inventory is tied up and not making more money. However, he said, "It's up to the Students' Union to decide if they want to run it as a service or if they want to make money."

On Wright's initiative, SU Records is beginning a promotional campaign which emphasizes top 40 specials. This attempt to turn SU Records' fortunes around will continue until Christmas, when the results will be emphasized and the implications discussed.

So far, "the campaign has proved fairly effective," said Ostashevsky.

"This is still one of the best stores in Western Canada."

Education topic for Anti-Cutbacks forum

by Gateway Staff

A look at the effects of budget cuts on education will be part of an Anti-Cutbacks Team forum on November 26.

Speakers will represent government, teachers, university administration, and students. They will be discussing the effects of last year's cuts to education budgets, as well as the future of education funding.

Each speaker will make a five minute presentation. One hour will be allocated at the end of the presentation for students to question the speakers.

The list of speakers includes Lynne Duncan, Deputy Minister of Advanced Education; Dean Patterson of the Faculty of Education; Nadine

Thomas, past president of the Alberta Teachers Association; Sheldon Chumir, Liberal Education critic; and Tom Sigurdson, New Democrat Education critic.

The forum will be sponsored by the Students' Union Anti-Cutbacks Team (ACT) and by the Anti-Cutbacks Team of the Education Students Association (ESA), said David Nelson, ESA VP Academic.

The forum is scheduled for November 26 at 3 p.m. in SUB Theatre.

The sexual revolution is over, and if you missed it, I'm sorry.

Dr. Hillary Wass
AIDS expert