

Man-on-the-street

Geers respond to *Bridge*

by James Stevenson

While some people on campus are up in arms over questionable comments written in the Engineering newspaper *The Bridge*, Engineering students have mixed feelings.

Many felt that while the comments in the paper concerning Jan Reimer were offensive, *The Bridge* as a whole is harmless.

"I think it's blown out of proportion. Sometimes I do wonder about what they print, but usually I do laugh at it. It's not something that intellectuals should debate," said Sidney Watterodt, a second-year Mechanical Engineering student.

Regardless of the present debate over questionable comments, en-

gineers feel that their paper is being taken the wrong way—seriously.

"The idea to outlaw *The Bridge* is ludicrous. It's meant to be a "joke sheet." *The Bridge* is something to take into class to laugh at with your buddies," declared Roger, a fourth-year Mech E.

"This recent outburst has gone way beyond control," agreed Walter, also a fourth-year Mech E. "People outside the faculty should not read it verbatim and take it as the general view of Engineers. It's offensive, but it's made in fun."

With regards to attacks made by feminists on campus, several female Engineers offered different explanations to the charges of discrimination.

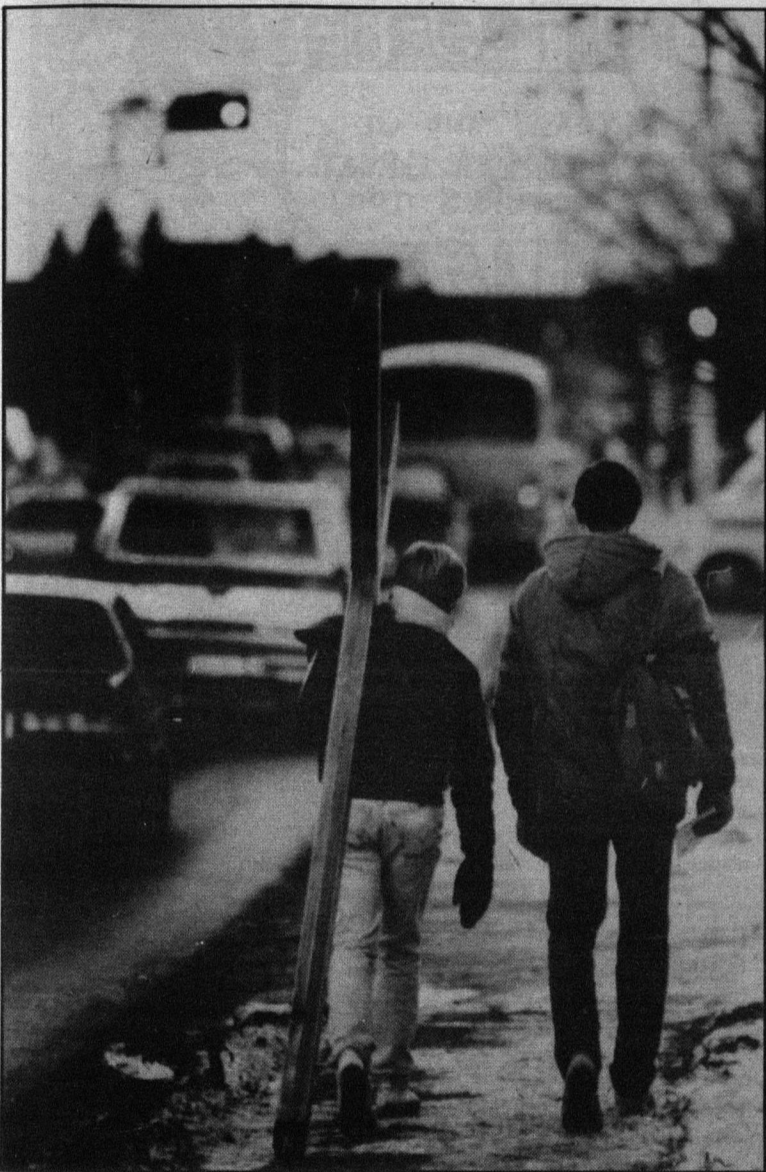
"The only reason why it's women slashing is because it is male engineers writing the articles. If females had time to write the articles, then it would be different," laughed Andrea Engel, a second-year student.

"I know the guys who wrote the article. It's being exaggerated, but the comments they made were not very nice," admitted Shauna Freeman, a second-year Petroleum Engineer student. "They need to clean *The Bridge* up a bit, but closing it is ridiculous."

While the engineers take different stances regarding the particular article in question, those interviewed seem to agree on the fate of *The Bridge*—that it should be allowed to continue.

After all, argued several geers, most Engineering faculties at other universities have similar publications, and some are a lot more crude.

While some geers agreed *The Bridge* could be cleaned up somewhat, it would be better if people simply viewed the paper in its proper light. "It's not a very serious paper, not in the way *The Gateway* is," concluded Shawn Santo, a third-year Metallurgical Engineer.



Jeff Cowley

Heading for the crossroads

Two members of the Youth with a mission carry a cross from the U of A to Southgate Mall to remind people of the cross of Christ.

Bus move dangerous

by Colleen McKenna

With LRT construction about to force the closure of the 89th Avenue Transit loop, several groups on campus have expressed concern about the safety of the new bus stop location. They believe that injuries are sure to result as hundreds of students tangle with rush hour traffic on 87th Avenue.

The bus stop will be moved to

the Jubilee Auditorium parking lot on 87th Avenue near the northeast corner. This move takes place January 1, 1990 and it will last for two years, said John Mark Fisher, Housing and Transport Commissioner. The new bus loop location has caused concern because of the heavy traffic on 87th Avenue and the high numbers of students which will be crossing the street.

In meetings with the city aldermen, Fisher said several options have been discussed to reduce the potential hazard to both drivers and students. Some of the suggestions made include building an overpass, installing another set of traffic lights and levying heavy fines for jaywalkers and for cars failing to stop.

However, Fisher pointed out that the overpass option is a problem because, "We're looking at \$250,000 to \$300,000 bill (for the overpass) to the City, but the problem is that six overpasses are scheduled and they all have priority...It wouldn't be in place in time to be of use."

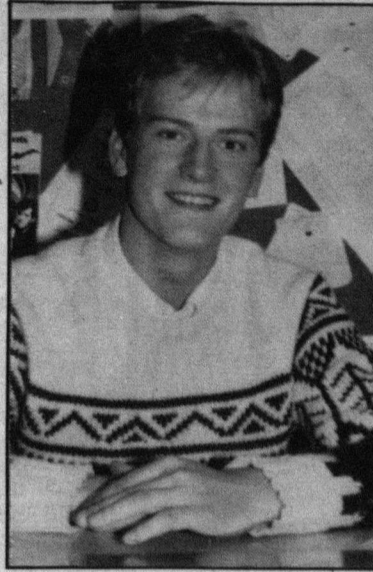
Fisher mentioned the option of having a scramble corner which he thought was an, "excellent idea." A scramble corner is a street corner, "where all the lights go red (simultaneously) so that there is no traffic going through the intersection at all...Green lights (for the pedestrians) all four ways allows for a big scramble. Pedestrians have the right of way totally for about 30 seconds."

Fisher added that the 89th Avenue loop would be closed off from 112th Avenue down to the Butterdome, but the education parkade will remain open. Then, this blocked area would be fenced off to prevent the possibility of construction accidents.

In the upcoming two weeks, signs will be put up in the bus stops describing the relocation to the students.

Natalie Sharpe, Chair of Safety On Campus Committee, is quite concerned about student safety in crossing 87th Avenue. Sharpe said, "To think traffic flow is going to be the same is ridiculous because 87th Avenue is a busy area." She also stressed that, "Lots of people just drive by 87th Avenue and just don't think about University students."

The most important message according to Sharpe is for, "students to think of their own personal safety." Sharpe advises students to dress more warmly, anticipate the traffic congestion, leave earlier and choose another route to avoid the construction. Her strongest advice to students is to "voice their opinions. If they've got some suggestions they should start making them to the various committees."



John Mark Fisher

Get well Alberta

by Pat Kiernan

A 1.1 million dollar "Centre for Well-Being" to be established on campus won't provide many direct benefits to University of Alberta students. But they, as all Albertans, will benefit from the research being done.

Funding for the centre was presented last Thursday, during a news conference held at University House. Stephen West, Alberta minister of Recreation and Parks, handed over the grant cheque, calling the project "a milestone in Canada."

The centre is actually a joint project between the Universities of Alberta, Calgary and Lethbridge. The management group will be based in Edmonton, but important research will take place in all three locations.

The name of the centre is appropriate as its goal is to research any material which promotes fitness, health and well-being. It is hoped that the Albertans will benefit from the new ideas, ultimately helping to reduce Medicare costs.

Alfred Nikolai, with the Recreation, Parks and Wildlife Foundation,

admits the concept is something the average person "can't really grab hold of. It's intangible, but it's also for the future."

Nikolai commended the government for making a departure from the typical "tangible" foundation funding programs. The million dollar grant will be spent on operating costs alone, with no visible capital expenditures. The "Centre" itself will be little more than an office in the Phys Ed department.

Gerry Glassford, dean of the faculty of Physical Education, describes the centre "as a clearing house, creating information for people in the communities to use." The research is geared toward professionals, with the intent that they pass the information on to the public through various programs.

University President Paul Davenport says the research planned for the centre is on the cutting edge. "These are new ideas which will sweep the continent in the next decade. And they will originate at the U of A."

Davenport sees the project as "an excellent example of inter-university cooperation."

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