



—Scarth photo

AND WITH THIS CROWN—Gai Ward becomes Miss Freshette in a ceremony at the Block A dance in the ed gym Saturday. Retiring queen Colleen Couves crowns the blonde arts student who was selected from five candidates.

gAtEwAy HEadllnEs ARe eaSiEr tO ReAd?

Did You Once Have Difficulty Reading Headlines In The Gateway?

We Did.

The Solution To A Mass Of Words All Beginning With Capital Letters Is to get rid of them and enable the reader's eyes to follow words and thoughts more easily.

In short, The Gateway has adopted what is called "downstyle." That is, all words in headlines, with the exception of the first word and all proper nouns, are in lower-case letters.

Now, you should be able to read headlines as you would a normal English sentence.

The "downstyle" technique has been adopted by many daily newspapers, in an effort to facilitate the reading of headlines and to create more "white space" on pages.

On pages 4 and 5, you will notice there are no capital letters at all—this is an artistic innovation in the style.

The Editors

Faculty gives support to new grade system

Nine-point scale to determine whether students pass or fail

The old and time-honored percentage grading system at U of A will get the boot next year to make way for a new and simplified system.

The major feature of the new system is that grades will be recorded on a nine-point scale and that considerable emphasis will be placed upon the verbal description of the grades as they are being assigned.

Although improvements on the present system have been under consideration for many years, it was only last spring

The grading system as approved by the General Faculty Council takes the form:

Grade Point	Description
9	Outstanding
8	First Class
7	Very Good
6	Good
5	Pass
4	Low Pass
3	Conditional
2	Supplemental
1	Fail

that the new system was adopted. Due to certain difficulties in implementing the new system however, it was not possible to use it this year.

The reasons given for the adoption of the new nine-point system are:

- it removes the unrealistic impression of exactness inherent in the percentage system;
- the use of the verbal grade makes the assigned grade more meaningful and certainly less misleading than is the case for marks assigned under the current system;
- the new system should help standardize the grades awarded in different disciplines, and
- the nine-point system represents a considerable simplification over the present system.

The new grading system was adopted on the recommendation of a committee headed by Dr. Saul Zalik, professor in the department of plant science. The committee consisting of a representative from each faculty, was formed by the General Faculty Council to study the present system of grading which has been the subject of much criticism.

The General Faculty Council, presided over by Dr. Johns has full powers in this matter.

The new system is now being studied by the different faculties for application next year.

Few attend CUS rally in Con Hall

Only 29 students attended the rally for tuition-free education held last Wednesday at Convocation Hall.

Ed Lavalle, CUS western regional president, and Richard Price, students' union president, addressed the group.

"The past generation was the "beat" generation, the one before that was the "silent" generation. Educated people are now becoming more socially concerned," said Lavalle.

Lavalle did not say whether this social concern was evident among U of A students.

Lavalle says the abolition of tuition fees, a cost shared by all university students, would help make post-secondary education more accessible.

"Tuition fees are 30-35 per cent of total university costs," said Lavalle.

Richard Price, students' union president, told the students 2,209 of last year's grade 12 students felt that lack of finances was a barrier to post-secondary education. This was 13 per cent of the 17,692 questioned by the Department of Education.

"Education is a right not a privilege," said Price.

"In California, where tuition is free, 50 per cent of high school students go on to university."

"In Alberta, only 15 to 20 per cent reach university."

Price hits student apathy here

U of A students' union president Richard Price has lashed out at student apathy.

In an interview Friday he said students' council will adopt radical means to combat the apathy indicated by the poor turnout at Wednesday's student rally.

Only 29 students heard CUS western regional president Ed Lavalle speak on free tuition. This is a sharp contrast to the 4,000 who heard Lavalle at UBC a week earlier.

Price said the apparent lack of student concern would not interfere with council's promotion of tuition-free education.

Too many people are solely concerned with studies or social life and forget the constantly changing world around us, says Price.

"It is easy to slip into a routine with a 'couldn't care less' attitude about campus."

By participating in student organizations, we'll have time for a social education, to derive a philosophy of life and to formulate a creative spirit, said the president.

"I just wonder what will happen to them when they get into the world outside. I wonder if they will be able to get along in this world if they do not get involved with campus life."

We must spark debate and controversy on campus issues, he said.

Price said council has a responsibility to report to the people who elected them.

Students' council placed their stand vis-a-vis tuition-free education on trial for the students at the rally last Wednesday, said Price.

"Students chose to ignore the chance to voice their opinions. But they will get more chances to voice their opinion in the future."

In order to instill more unity and spirit into this campus, council wants to speak to residences, clubs, and other groups on campus to tell what council is doing.

If any new ideas to create a little spirit on campus are proposed, council will try to do what they can to support them, says Price.