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For further information and applications contact the Student Awards Office - 252 Athabasca Hall

**Application Deadline - January 16, 1987**

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## Bambi, Gainers and more

# The issues of '86

by Linda Atchison

During the first half of the 1986-87 school year several events on campus provided students with some interesting, if not controversial issues to ponder. What follows is a recap of a few of those events:

● The bitter Gainers dispute sparked a controversy on campus when it was publicized that Gainers meat is sold at Housing and Food Service outlets.

The U of A New Democrat Club responded with a petition to stop Housing and Food Services from buying from Gainers during the dispute. The petition, containing 500 signatures, was taken to the office of the U of A president Myer Horowitz Nov. 26.

Protestors were upset because they had asked Horowitz or another university official to receive the petition and none responded.

The reason given was that Horowitz had a previous engagement made ten weeks earlier, and the letter asking him to meet the rallyers was sent only one day before the petition was to be served.

Two days later Horowitz called a special meeting of the Housing and Food Services Advisory Committee where it was decided that quality, price and market acceptability will determine which supplier the University will buy meat from.

Also, Housing and Transport Commissioner Andrew Fredericks suggested that Gainers products be marked as such to give consumers a choice and indicate whether they want Gainers products on campus.

● The ability of the former Students' Union to account for some of its funds was questioned during the "Strippergate" affair.

It was brought to light that SU funds may have paid for a stripper to perform during a SU changeover party last April 29.

A cheque made out to former VP Internal Scott Richardson for \$130

on April 29 was listed on the cheque remittance voucher as being: For SU Party, RE: Changeover.

Bambi, a stripper who said she performed at a function in SUB last April, was paid exactly \$130 for her show.

Only former VP Academic Connie Uzwyshyn asserted that the stripper was paid for with SU funds. The Gateway was unable to find anyone who could give an alternative explanation for where the money could have gone.

● Major changes were made to the rules governing the Writing Competence Test over the course of the term.

Beginning in September, attention was focused on the WCT when the U of A refused to extend the deadline for approximately 75 students who took time off from University and returned this year.

Students entering in the 84/85 school year had twenty-four months to pass the test. The 75 students' time away from school was considered as part of that twenty-four month period.

These students were allowed to write the test on Sept. 5th and 6th. Thirteen failed it but were allowed to continue their studies and given deadline extensions.

As of Sept. 22, students who received a mark of 80 per cent or better on the Alberta Grade XII Diploma Examination in English 30 are exempt from the WCT.

The motion was passed by the General Faculties Council (GFC) to be effective immediately.

Some students were upset since they were informed of these changes after they had already paid for and written the test.

No refund was given, since, according to Assistant Registrar Bonnie Afanasiff, the students had received the services the money pays for.

Students were not informed prior to writing the exams in August and

September, of possible changes to the policy in case the motion did not pass.

● A controversy developed as to whether Students' Union should become involved in international issues.

Two motions by VP External Michael Hunter regarding this issue were defeated in Council.

The first endorsed abolition of apartheid in South Africa. The second condemned human rights violations in a group of countries named by the External Affairs Board (based upon the Amnesty International 1985 Yearbook).

The SU later passed a motion made by science rep Ken Hui to limit further discussion on international issues. Council now requires at least a two-thirds majority to discuss any motion of an international nature.

A Gateway survey found the majority of students feel the SU shouldn't take a stand on such issues mainly because they feel it can't possibly represent the views of all students on campus.

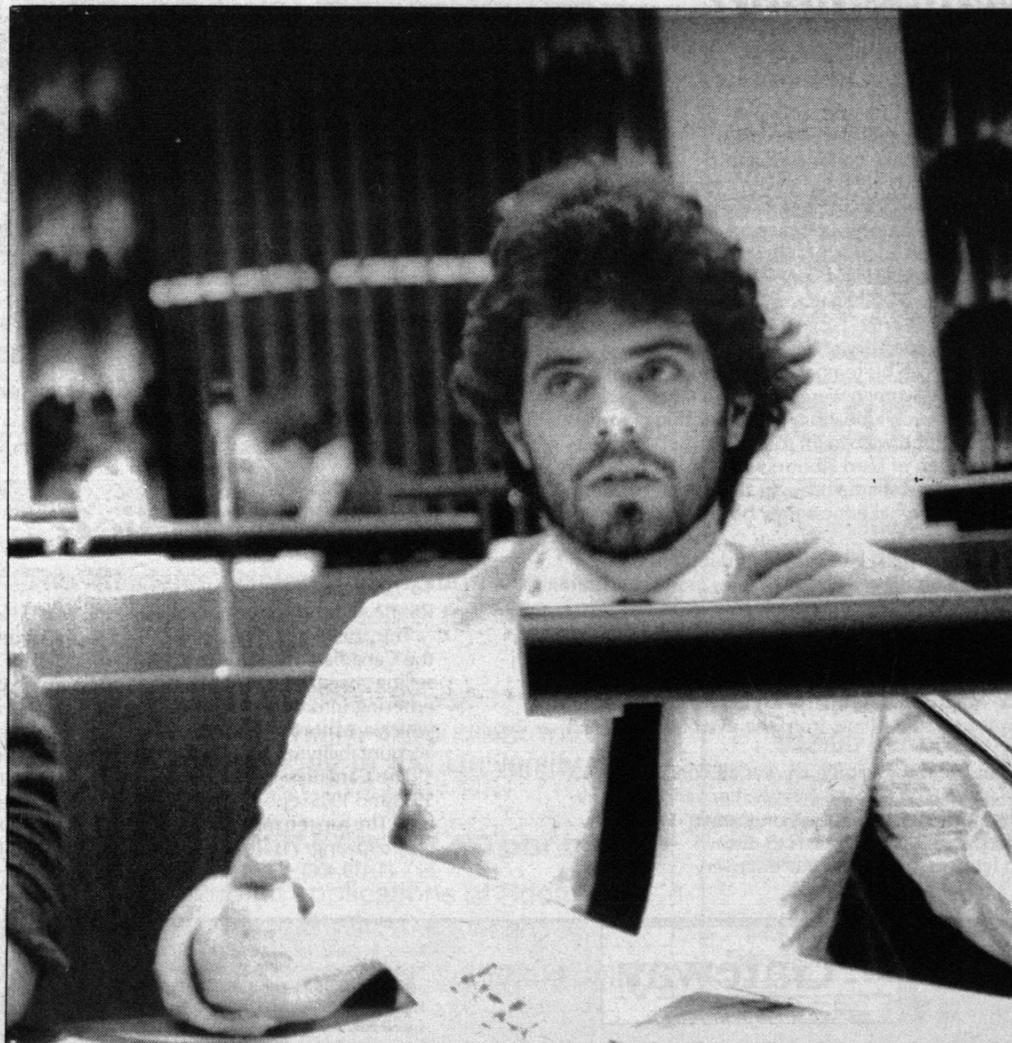
● Funding for education has become a renewed concern among students and educators, and promises to be a continuing issue for the new year.

The concern arose due to a possible five or ten per cent decrease in funding for education in the upcoming provincial budget.

The U of A may lose at least 30 million dollars from its 240 million dollar operating grant from the provincial government.

A motion by VP External Michael Hunter that education keep pace with the province's yearly inflation rate was passed by Students' Council.

In addition, Hunter will start an extensive lobbying and letter writing campaign. Beginning in January thousands of post cards will be distributed to schools all over the province.



Scott Richardson, last year's SU Vice-President Internal, implicated in the Strippergate affair

photo Rob Schmidt