

THE GATEWAY

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University will change your life: Samarasekera



EDMON ROTEA
News Staff

With a great amount of excitement and enthusiasm, first-year students and their orientation leaders gathered at the Hawerlak Park Heritage Amphitheatre Tuesday evening for the annual President's address.

After several faculty cheers, a dance performance by the U of A cheer team, and a personal heartfelt speech from Vice-President (Student Life) Omer Yusuf—who set the precedent for this week's Week of Welcome by spelling out the letters WOW in his facial hair—both the Students' Union and University of Alberta presidents delivered speeches to an attentive and enthusiastic audience.

Sam Power's speech discussed how the University is not only a place of discovery, but also an institution where students should learn to push themselves, and the world around them.

"Challenge the University to deliver the education that you need to contribute to the world. Dare them to deliver the education you need. Challenge the province to deliver the funding and support that you need as a student and challenge them to create a province that every Albertan needs," Power said.

PLEASE SEE ADDRESS • PAGE 4

AVAST YE, FOUL FIRST-YEARS Engineering students and part-time pirates storm through Hawerlak Park leading their new swabbies to the annual President's address. Speeches by VP (Student Life) Omar Yusuf, SU President Sam Power and U of A President Indira "Cap'n" Samarasekera welcomed new students aboard.

MIKEOTTO

'Plant illegally sells tobacco after ban

NATALIE CLIMENHAGA
Senior News Editor

The Students' Union Executive Committee will be taken before the Discipline, Interpretation and Enforcement (DIE) Board this fall by Audit Committee after a \$64 profit was made from illegal tobacco sales in the Powerplant during May and June.

"When I came to office, SUBMart had already got rid of all of its cigarettes, RATT [had done] the same and so I just naturally assumed everything was taken care of."

**CHRIS CUNNINGHAM,
VP (OPERATIONS AND FINANCE)**

The sales violated an amendment to this year's SU budget principles that came into effect 1 May, which prohibits

the sale of tobacco products in all SU-run businesses such as RATT, the Powerplant and SUBMart.

The amendment was made after students voted 60 per cent in favour of a campus-wide tobacco ban on a non-binding plebiscite question meant to gauge student opinion during SU elections last April. However, because Students' Council has no control over University policy, tobacco products will continue to be sold at privately-owned campus businesses.

But, Vice-President (Operations and Finance) Chris Cunningham had assumed that when the SU executive had its turnover on 1 May, the removal of all tobacco products from SU businesses had already taken place, and he explained that the Powerplant's illegal tobacco sales weren't brought to his attention by the Audit Committee until mid-June, at which time they were stopped.

"When I came to office, SUBMart had already got rid of all of its cigarettes, RATT [had done] the same and so I just naturally assumed everything was taken care of," Cunningham said.

PLEASE SEE TOBACCO • PAGE 2

High hopes for redesigned 'Plant

Buffet meals and new coffeeshop part of plan to salvage bar from depths of deficit

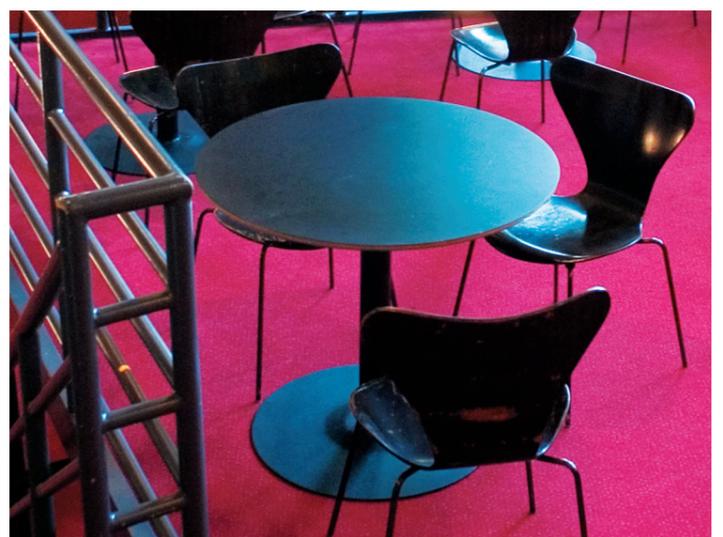
SCOTT LILWALL
Deputy News Editor

Among the new faces and buildings that students at the University of Alberta might see at the beginning of the new school year is a new take on one of the best known buildings on campus: the renovation and redesign of the Powerplant on campus.

The Powerplant, whose restaurant and bar has in recent years become well-known for slow service and budgets in the red, has seen a number of changes aimed at bringing the business back into the black. Last year, the business lost \$173 495. The latest incarnation has the 'Plant split into four distinct areas, a plan that Chris Cunningham, Students' Union Vice-President (Operations and Finance), hopes will foster interest among students.

"We had to address the concerns for students and had to make it a place for students. We just needed to make more space for people, to draw in those that aren't yet coming to the 'Plant," Cunningham said.

The plan has the restaurant, which previously featured table service, turned into a buffet, with students



MIKEOTTO

EMPTY CHAIRS AT EMPTY TABLES Will new 'Plant plan draw in the crowds?

paying a flat rate for all-you-can-eat meals. The bar will continue to operate under its traditional model from Thursday to Sunday; however, the rest of the week, liquor won't be served, and the area will be a leisure space for students. The third area of the building, previously known as Dewey's Lounge, has been converted

into a coffee shop.

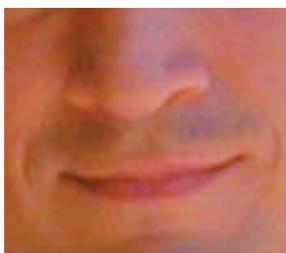
Cunningham explained that part of the reason for the elimination of Dewey's and the lack of bar service was to make the Powerplant a more distinct place, compared to other places on and around campus.

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ALSO READ 'PLANT FEATURE ON PAGE 19

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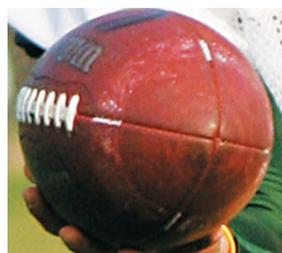
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Getting our Filli-on

He drives a classy spaceship and kills cannibalistic space crazies. Not too bad for a home-grown chap, I say.

A & E, PAGE 21



Not-so-Special Teams

The Bears kicking and punting games aren't exactly where they should be, and Ross Prusakowski knows why.

SPORTS, PAGE 30