NO HAIR APPARENT Engineers gather to have their hair shaved off in a fundraiser for cancer research on last Friday. *JENNY FROGNER*

Engineers raise funds by razor

Third annual engineering head shave exceeds goal and ends with more than $30 000 collected, 50 inches of donated hair and one hairless Vice-President

NATALIE CLIMENHAGA
Senior News Editor

Dana Marsh screamed when she heard the sound of a razor being lowered towards her head. The third-year computer-engineering student had never even had short hair before having it all shaved off last Friday, at the third-annual engineering head shave.

The event held in support of the Alberta Cancer Foundation was "a complete success," according to head shave coordinator Lubomyra Zorniak from the Engineering Students' Society (ESS). A total of 60 participants come forward to beat their goal of $30 000.

"It's such a great event that I thought it'd be interesting," said Marsh, who raised just over $1000 from pledges, laughing as she felt her freshly buzzed 'do.

"This feels really weird ... I'd had hair about half-way down my back so it was a big sacrifice and I think that made a lot of people notice it was a good cause."

Prior to Friday's head shave, participants went classroom-to-classroom collecting donations and promoting the event. Fourth-year mechanical-engineering student Nic Ritchie, who wasn't phased with the prospect of going bald, raised about $300. He explained that, depending on the amount of money raised, some

participants dyed their hair fuchsia for the week leading up to the head shave.

"I did the head shave last year as well and it was a lot of fun. It's fun to dye your hair and participate," he said.

Gary Wicentowich explained the inspiration behind bringing the first-annual engineering head shave to campus in 2004.

> "It was really great that they made [their goal], it's so humbling to see a student organization manage to pull that kind of event together."
>
> **AMANDA HENRY,**
> **VP (ACADEMIC)**

"My father Ron Wicentowich had cancer back in 2003 and my good friend Louis Bezvidenhout actually came out and organized 'Razored for Ron,'" Wicentowich said, saying that after the success of that event they decided to introduce the idea at the U of A.

"This is for everybody and anyone," Wicentowich stressed. "[This is for] friends, family, other faculties ... everyone."

Zorniak announced Monday ESS's fund raising total currently sits at $31 671.31—with donations still coming in.

"We fully expect to raise over $32 000 when all is said and done," Zorniak said via e-mail, adding that Friday's event ended with Students' Union Vice-President (Academic) Amanda Henry having her head shaved.

Henry, who had made a deal with the ESS that if the goal of $30 000 was met or if they raised $5000 for her head she would take part in the shaving, said that while she'd initially been a little nervous, being bald wasn't "as bad as [she'd] thought."

"It was really great that they made [their goal]. It's so humbling to see a student organization manage to pull that kind of event together," Henry said. "I'm going to just have to get used to how cold it is outside."

And according to Marsh, having one's hair shaved is generally more drastic for girls because of stigmas sometimes associated with girls who shave their heads.

"There are a lot of negative stereotypes that people have towards [girls] with short hair," Marsh said. "But I think that also makes it a lot easier when doing something like a fundraiser to raise awareness."

Six participants also donated their hair for wigs for cancer patients, totalling more than 50 inches of hair.

NEWS BRIEF

Written by Liz Durden

GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCES FUND BOOST TO POSTSECONDARY

The provincial government announced 15 November that they will invest $162 million in new and renovated postsecondary facilities across Alberta, including the new veterinary school at the University of Calgary and an equine centre at Olds College.

The other institutions that will receive funding are the Banff Centre and Red Deer College. Money will also be contributed to the World Skills Competition, to be held in Calgary in 2009.

Spokesman for Advanced Education, Cam Traynor, explained that the funding was determined based on where each project was in terms of develop-

ment and approval. Also, an effort was made to help provide money to those projects that have not received previous funding.

"Every institution forwards their priority capital plans, and they are reviewed and considered. At the University of Alberta, [there are] a number of capital projects that are already going and are being funded. The announcement we made last week were out of second quarter surplus funds, so those were some additional projects that are now going to be funded," Traynor said.

The University of Calgary will receive $64 million to build its planned Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, which will be the fifth veterinary school in Canada, and is set to specialize in large-animal medicine. The institution will also receive $35 million for their new Child Development Centre, which will combine research, training and education, as well as provide child-care services,

making it the first interdisciplinary child development centre in Canada.

The government will also allocate $27 million to the replacement of the Donald Cameron Hall at the Banff Centre, $10.3 million to Red Deer College to fund the expansion of training facilities, and $10 million to Olds College, to be used for the construction of a new equine innovation centre.

The World Skills Competition will receive $16 million from the government for the purchase of equipment to be used at the event. Traynor explains that after the competition, the equipment will be given to Albertan schools.

"Equipment will be turned over to various postsecondary institutions in the province and used for training apprentices. Probably the bulk of it would be for SAIT and NAIT—that's where the most apprentices are trained—but probably for some smaller institutions around the province as well."