

Much ado about nothing...

# Tempest in a soup tureen

by Kevin Gillese

A "bigoted" ice sculpture from the university's Engineering Week has made the news in Quebec newspapers and stimulated some interest in national newspaper circles.

The Electrical Engineering Club's first-place sculpture of Quebec Premier Rene Levesque striking a fire underneath a pot — "French P.E. Soup" — in Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau in it, was run as a photo in a Jan. 29 issue of Montreal's French-language daily *Devoir*.

As well, Southam News Service's Ottawa news bureau chief, Chris Young, sent *Edmonton Journal* editor Andrew Snaddon asking for an explanation of the sculptures and whether the political views expressed in sculptures were common to the city.

Snaddon said Young asked for an explanation after seeing a photo of the Civil Engineering sculpture of a frog on a lily pad spouting a cannon at a beaver beside a maple leaf.

"I personally didn't find



Le premier ministre du Quebec sert de prétexte à l'esprit carnavalesque des étudiants de l'Université de l'Alberta. Ils ont monté cette sculpture sur glace qui représente Rene Levesque émergeant d'une grosse soupière de soupe aux pois. Cette "oeuvre d'art" doit rester sur le campus aussi longtemps que le soleil ne la fera pas fondre.

(Téléphoto CP)

**Montreal meets Archie Bunker?**  
Montreal's *Le Devoir* published this photo of our Engineering Week sculpture in their Jan. 29 issue. At last, the U of A gets free publicity.

anything objectionable in the sculptures," Snaddon said Monday. "But I'm not sitting in the Ottawa valley. I'm used to the ice sculptures and I'm used to the engineers."

Snaddon responded to the coverage received in Quebec French-language press by saying "if they're using this to intimate we're rednecks out here, I think they're really reaching. It (the publication of the photographs) is an unfortunate situation and it will, unfortunately, be made into something more than it should."

*Journal* publisher J. Patrick O'Callaghan said "I don't regard it (the P.E. Soup statue) as anything but amusing."

The *Edmonton Journal* ran the photographs of the ice sculptures on the front page and on the front city-section in their Jan. 22 issue. The front page cutline was changed from the first edition where it said the sculptures reflected a "flavor for national affairs," to read in the final edition "along with (Quebec Premier Rene) Levesque...a number of sculptures of frogs, pea-soup kettles, and even a sculpture of

the Premier and the Canadian flag."

The Edmonton news bureau of Canadian Press picked up the photos from the *Journal* and sent them over their national wire network, but incorrectly listed Levesque as the man in the P.E. soup.

*Le Devoir* picked up the photo of the Electrical Engineer's statue and wrote a cutline which read:

*The prime minister of Quebec is used as a pretext for the "carnival spirit" of the students at the University of Alberta. They showed this ice sculpture which represents Rene Levesque emerging from a huge soup-tureen full of...pea soup. This "work of art" will remain on campus as long as the sun allows it (literally — the sun will not melt them).*

The satirical note of the cutline is obvious — three dots are placed before the "soupe aux pois" to draw attention to it (although the pun in English — of P.E. and pea — is untranslatable), and the question marks around "oeuvre d'art" and the word "pretext" indicate an ironic tone.

Trying to learn what's going on in the world by reading newspapers ...

## The Gateway

is like trying to tell time by looking at the second hand of a watch.  
— Ben Hecht

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# B of G says no — again

by Kevin Gillese

The university's Board of Governors Friday reaffirmed a member decision to reject the provincial government's proposal to institute differential fees for foreign students.

The Board voted 10 to 2 against a motion that first-entrant foreign students be charged an additional \$300, beginning this fall.

However, Alberta's minister of advanced education, Dr. Bert Hohol, issued a press release Monday morning which lists the details of a differential fee for foreign (visa) students entering the province's post-secondary institutions this fall, including the stipulation that foreign students at Alberta universities pay \$300 more tuition than Canadians in September.

Dr. Bert Hohol said Monday he did not view Friday's Board decision as a confrontation. "Confrontation is neither fruitful nor necessary — the university has the need to express itself and

it did.

"The U of A has been consistent in their opinion there ought not to be differential fees.

"I'm going to assume that all institutions will respond positively to my announcement today."

Hohol said what was at issue when he met with post-secondary institution officials Jan. 19 to discuss differential fees was "how much and to whom the fees would apply."

He said that by assigning the \$300 fee, after the U of A had voted twice to reject them, "in no way, I think, encroaches on the responsibilities of the university or its prerogatives."

At the Friday Board meeting, Board members spoke strongly against the differential fees.

At their Dec. 3, 1976 meeting, the B of G voted against the fees and told Dr. Hohol they would reconsider his proposal after receiving further information indicating "a clear statement of reasons and a clear mechanism of implementation" of such fees.

"Since that time, the Minister

has provided nothing to change our minds." U of A President Harry Gunning told the Board Friday.

Students' Union president Len Zoeteman said if the Board were to accept the government proposal because of pressure "we'll have sacrificed all the autonomy we're granted under the Universities Act."

John Schlosser, Board finance chairman, told the Board he had "yet to be convinced differential fees will bring much revenue to this university."

"I think we should be con-

cerned about Commonwealth country students who come here without scholarships and to whom such an increase, small though it may seem, will cause hardship."

Chancellor of the University and Board member Ron Dalby told the Board he believed the provincial government has made a political decision before all the facts are in, and I think they're now in the position of having to run with that first position."

Dalby said the Dec. 3 meeting at which the Board first rejected differential fees "was

one of the moments when I've been most proud of this university."

Dr. D.M. Ross, one of the two faculty representatives on the B of G, said the income gathered by differential fees would be "trivial" and would only satisfy a "misinformed public opinion."

"Those of us who have had the experience of supervising and teaching foreign grad students know that foreign students have been a great

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## Dean of Students named

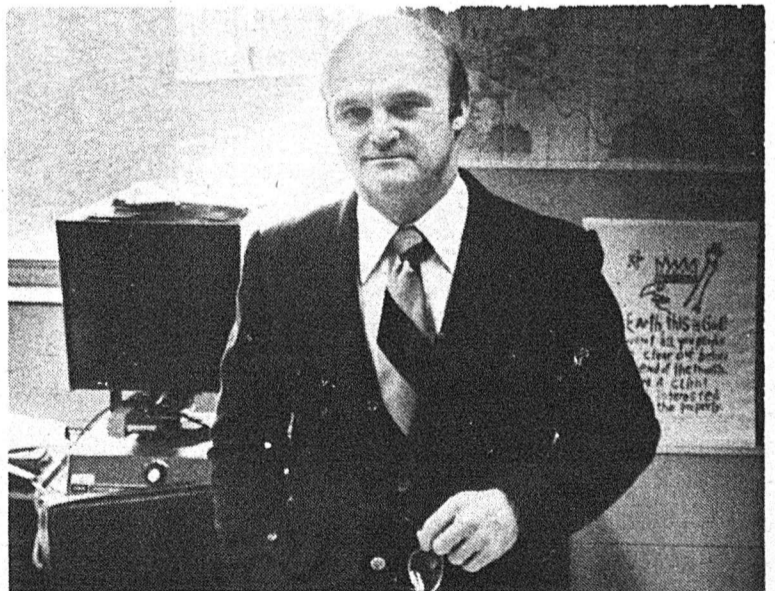
History professor Dr. Burton Smith was named the first Dean of Students of the U of A at a Board of Governors meeting Friday.

In an interview Monday, Smith said he will be responsible for co-ordinating fractured elements of the student affairs departments. These include Student Awards, Canadian University Students Overseas (CUSO), Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), and the Foreign Student Advisory Board.

Smith said his new office will eliminate overlap which has existed among the departments. A new solidarity will exist among the student affairs departments, Smith said.

The Dean will be responsible for liaison between these offices and the university administration. Smith said he hoped his role would not be one of an ombudsman due, in part, to his bias as an administrator. But he suggested that an ombudsman might be reinstated.

Smith said he wishes to



Dr. Burton Smith, Dean of Students

increase student involvement in all areas of student affairs, and to provide a more concentrated effort in information and academic counselling services, especially directed at the first

year students.

He added, due to the impersonal size of the university, there is a great need for people on this

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## Speigel spills beans on Quebec blockade

WASHINGTON D.C. (ZNS) — A German weekly magazine claims that the Pentagon has a secret contingency code-named "Project Camelot," which calls for "an American blockade of Quebec by sea and water should the province ever secede" from Canada.

The magazine, *Der Spiegel*, published in Hamburg, alleges the plan exists because Canadian observers and top U.S. officials fear that Quebec

could become another Cuba.

The *Der Spiegel* article, which was republished in the US this week by *Atlas World Press Review*, says "one can only speculate how president Carter would react to (Quebec's secession). But for years the Pentagon has maintained a thick file labeled 'Project Camelot.' This secret document sees Canada as a 'danger spot' on par with Africa and Latin America and calls for an American blockade of Quebec ... should the province ever secede."