



photo by Bill Ingber

Now let's see, um...the big hand is on the ten, and the little one is on the three...uh...damn! Maybe I should ask my Math prof.

# gateway

Thursday Sept. 23, 1982

Whenever I hear the word culture...

I reach for my gun.  
Hermann Goering

## SU debt dying slowly

by Cameron Laux  
Student Union President Robert Greenhill and his executive are grappling with a problem that has beset numerous executives in past years; a fluctuating SU overdraft.

The deficit reached a high of over \$1,000,000 last year, and currently stands around \$600,000. The university, the SU banker, approves month to month negative balances. However, if the balance of the debt is not eliminated by January 1, 1985, the SU will be put into receivership.

Although the overdraft is far from insignificant and is expected to become even less so later this year, Robert Greenhill and his staff think the situation is far from insurmountable.

"We came into office with a deficit of \$1.3 million dollars projected this summer," says Greenhill, "but at our first meeting we cut our budget by \$250,000. In addition, the SUB mortgage payment has been renegotiated from June to November."

A great deal hangs in the balance over the possibility of the Students' Union executive lobbying effectively for a \$5.50 fee increase, without which Greenhill believes there will be, "no chance of paying off the deficit."

So will everything be neatly wrapped up and back on track by the end of this session?

No way.  
SU v.p. finance Roger Merkosky says, "It is not possible

to get rid of the overdraft in a year. We can, however, long range plan in an attempt to get rid of the debt."

Among Merkosky's long range plans are a review of the administration, the cutting of management and non-management positions, and consolidation in business and service areas.

Other aspects that have contributed to the overdraft are being analyzed and corrected.

Says Merkosky, "There are certainly no plans to expand the SU in fact, we are probably over-extended as is; the underlying reason for the present mess."

Merkosky also states that "the ideas of last year's four year plan are being carried forward with some degree of continuity."

But what visible effect will this have on the campus?

Student Union business manager Tom Wright notes that, as well as eliminating staff, closing the SUB gallery and combining some management, inventory is being lowered from \$400,000 to \$200,000 in the SU record store in HUB, and one store, SU Yarn Craft, was sold September 20, 1982. Wright also puts his eggs in the \$5.50 fee increase basket.

Says Wright, "If the executive receives their fee increase at the referendum, we will be out of debt by January, 1985. If not, well..."

Ryan Beebe, Student Union finance manager and Tom Wright's right hand man, sums it up: "Several years back they budgeted on incorrect numbers and for years decisions were made on inaccurate data. When the \$150,000 oversight was discovered, massive adjustments had



to be made, and here we are now."

Beebe adds, "Some things, such as professional fees, cannot be foreseen."

And if there is no \$5.50 fee increase, then Beebe predicts the SU will have to rely on "very efficient business management, increased rentals, and use would be made of extra space in SUB."

What of the university, the SU's imperturbable and increasingly impecunious banker?

Lorne Leitch, the v.p. in charge of university finance has been working with the problem for 11 years.

"It has been understood," says Leitch, "that there would be

over balances of this magnitude from time to time."

An agreement was made about two years ago to the effect that the overdraft would be held within a \$500,000 limit, with approved variances.

Leitch says, "We expect that the overdraft will be eliminated within the next few years, as per the terms of the agreement. He also adds, "If the terms are not met the SU will be put into receivership, but that is very unlikely."

SU President Robert Greenhill observes that, if nothing else, "the university covering our overdraft casts aspirations on our political autonomy."

### Higher requirements

## Ed. standards up

by Sandra Corbett

The Faculty of Education has decided to upgrade its entrance requirements for the 1983-84 winter session.

Dean Worth, the Dean of the Faculty of Education, feels "the changes reflect an emphasis on higher standards for entrance to the faculty". The decision to change the requirements was made last spring by the Faculty of Education Council. Dr. Wilde, the Associate Dean of the Faculty of Education, feels that the changes will increase the quality of students coming into the faculty.

The changes will require high school students to present a 60 percent or higher average in English 30 in addition to having a

60 percent or higher overall average including three matriculation subjects and one 30 level subject. Non matriculated students must present a 60 percent or higher average in English 30.

However, if these students are unable to present this course, they will be required to take a six credit junior English course. According to Dr. Wilde, "research has shown that English is one of the strongest indicators of success."

Prior to these changes, the Faculty of Education required students to present four academic grade 12 subjects plus one additional grade 12 subject carrying

continued on pg. 16

## CONTENTS

- In the News... ...Notley speaks out
- In the Letters... ...jocks and staples
- In the Arts... ...not enough space
- In the Sports... ...amateur sport
- In the Features... ...men's anger