

# Big Dada Jim keeps natives waiting

by Anne Stephen

You may have been wondering what has happened in regard to the Great Debate over tuition fees.

Well, if Jim Horsman, minister for advanced education and manpower, knows, he's not telling. Neither is his entourage.

Representatives from the Federation of Alberta Students (FAS) met with Bruce Ramsey, special assistant to the minister, on February 2 to discuss the plans for a long term tuition policy. He said, of the seven alternatives proposed by the minister last year, indexing of tuition was favoured.

The other alternatives were for low, or no fees, and the remaining five were "fairly close to what we have now," says Anne McGrath, chairperson of FAS.

Last year, a committee was set up to tour the province and get responses and recommendations about the seven alternatives. Students' Councils, FAS, academic staff, administrations, and most Boards of Governors in Alberta all submitted positions.

Most groups called for an accessibility study to determine the relationship between tuition fees and access before a decision was made. Horsman originally said no to a study and called it "an airy-fairy, mushy thing that would be a waste of the taxpayer's dollars."

Apparently, he has started to change his mind. He is "saying now that it is maybe a good idea," says McGrath.



Jim Horsman, your minister of Advanced Education and Manpower, is sitting on the much-feared government policy. Could be he is trying to face down student opposition to an unpopular plan.

photo: Matthew Moralis

The possibility of an accessibility study being done is solely up to the minister. A study would be done if, and only if, the

minister wants one; he hasn't yet said he does.

"It's pretty clear the minister is interested in indexing," but

since most reactions were that an accessibility study was necessary, "the minister is in a position that he'll have to go through with

one." It would be "kind of ridiculous to come out now with a long term policy without a third party access study done," according to McGrath.

The official FAS standpoint, as of September 9, 1981, is to ask that tuition fees be "immediately frozen" until the study is completed.

Of the three Boards of Governors in the province, U of A, U of C, and U of L, all three called for the access study to be done. Only one wanted indexing - the U of A.

Horsman had hoped to have a policy out by the end of January or the beginning of February. Now he's saying a decision will be made soon after the house reconvenes, which should be in mid-March. Such a timetable would allow little time for an access study to be completed.

Horsman is now looking at the results of the tour committee, after which, they will go to the education caucus committee, which is within the Tory caucus, then to Tory caucus, and on to the Legislature.

Ramsey said there was a "slight possibility that the recent federal budget and cuts in fiscal transfers may stall the decision."

McGrath says that "if the feds cut monies (going to post-secondary institutions), we can't count on the province (to up their contributions). We can expect massive increases in tuition fees, and more cutbacks."

## Hot shot American prof to unleash wisdom at U of A.

Robert C. North, Professor of Political Science at Stanford University, will soon be at the University of Alberta as a distinguished visitor to the Department of Political Science.

A prominent aspect of his schedule is a public lecture—"War or Peace—A Paradox of Bargaining"—to be given February 11 at 8 p.m. in Humanities Centre Lecture Theatre I.

In addition to the lecture, he will offer a research seminar February 10 at 3 p.m. in 10-4 H.M. Tory Building. The topic is "Who Gets What, When, and How in the Global System?"

He will also participate in a forum on international conflict sponsored by the Political Science

Undergraduate Association and booked February 12 at 3 p.m. in T.B. 14-9.

North has taught and conducted research on international

conflict and Chinese-Soviet relations for more than thirty years. A pacesetter in terms of the study of dynamics of international crisis and conflict, his ongoing

research program has formed the basis for much of the most innovative work in the field.

*Nations in Conflict*, and *The Chinese People's Republic* are

among the books that he has written or co-written.

For further information on his visit, contact David Dewitt at 432-5380 or 432-3429.

## Desperate gun battle leaves grisly red trail of carnage?

by Wes Oginski

Details on last Wednesday's heist on campus are still unclear.

Two Loomis security men were robbed outside of the west entrance of the Students' Union Building. A group of men surprised the guards and made off with about \$180,000. The suspects are reported to be armed with two handguns and a submachine gun. The number of men has not yet been ascertained.

"Some witnesses say three (men), some say four (men)," says police spokesperson Lance Beswick. He does add that the investigation is leaning towards four suspects.

An exchange of gunfire occurred at the incident. Early reports said that one of the thieves was wounded. Other Edmonton media reported that the wounded suspect was hit in the head.

"That's absolute nonsense,"

Beswick says. "We don't even know for absolutely certain if he (the suspect) was hit or not."

Beswick explains that the evidence does not clearly indicate if the suspect was hit. Hospitals and clinics in the Edmonton area have not reported any severe injuries. If one of the suspects did suffer a head wound, it is likely that he would need medical attention.

Police are still searching for

the vehicle used in the suspects' escape as reported by witnesses.

Another robbery took place in December of 1980. Two Loomis guards were surprised in SUB and robbed of over \$300,000. No one has been arrested for the crime yet but Beswick says the police "have a fair idea of who did it."

Loomis Armored Car Service Ltd. is offering a \$30,000 reward for any information leading to the recovery of the money.

BAZ

by SKEET and Nelsed



## Olivia Butti's Diary

February 7

Dear Diary,

Well, diary, I'm afraid it's been a few days since I've written. But that is probably just as well; anything I might have written since Petey and I left Jamaica would be pretty foul stuff.

Actually our vacation picked up considerably once Petey managed to get our money out of those American Express bozos. But it was over quickly and we were back at the airport where I met the most touching native with a large package wrapped in brown paper. He told me he wanted to send a home-made comforter to his poor 80 year old mother who was living in Edmonton and having a hard time with the cold. However he was too poor to afford the postage so he was waiting at the airport for a plane going to Edmonton. How could I refuse his request to take the package with me to Edmonton? The package was quite large and weighted several pounds; I'm sure it would keep his mother warm and content.

The man said his brother would meet me at the airport and all I had to do was carry the package. It all seemed so easy.

When we got to Edmonton, however, that was another story. I had gone ahead through customs and was waiting the longest time for

Petey. I went back for him and he was gone. He'd been arrested. The officer told me he had tried to smuggle an illegal substance into Canada.

Well, diary, I stomped into that back room to give them a piece of my mind I found Petey and two more officers there. They were arguing over the sugar cane stalks we had brought. Well I gave them what for. I mean really diary, should it be a crime to carry a few harmless plants into the country?

But they wouldn't budge, not until I told them who I was and threatened to have their phones cut off and their garbage pickup cancelled. Sometimes it's handy to be an alderwife I must admit.

All this foofarah took so long though, that Jamaican man's brother must have left. I only saw one black man in the whole airport. I would have checked if he was the brother but suddenly four men rushed up to him, one shoved his fingers down the man's throat and they hustled him out the door. I guess they were taking him to hospital; he probably ate a Parnell hotdog in the airport cafeteria.

So I've still got that package sitting in the basement but I haven't got time to worry about it now. I go away for one week and the bus drivers are threatening to go on strike. Some times I think this city can't get along without me.