

# MINI CENTER FACES PROBLEMS

by Dawnne Chappelle

THE STUDENT UNION Mini-center has encountered unforeseen problems with their position in the Robertson Library Student Lounge.

"As you know, they are planning to renovate the Pit," says Dean MacMillan, head of the committee in charge of designing and building the desk. "We had planned to paint the wall behind the desk with the Student Union colors and logo, but we've been asked to wait."

As well as painting it, the Student Union would also like to mount the desk to the floor and put a large cork-

board on the wall directly behind the desk, specifically for Student Union materials. These plans have also been put on hold pending the completion of renovations in the pit.

The mini-center has encountered few other problems since it opened last semester. Although there is no schedule and the members of the Student Union work when it is convenient, there has been no problem getting people to work.

"Ideally, I would like a permanent schedule, but that just doesn't work out", says MacMillan, "The councillors have too many other

things to do."

There has been a limited response to the desk this semester, but it is less than the Student Union had expected.

"Visibility is our whole problem right now," Mac Millan says. "The idea was to be visual, and we have been put on hold. I would like to see it finished to what we had originally planned, if not more."

The Student Union Mini-Center is open Monday to Friday from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm in the Robertson Library Student Lounge.

## PLO representative calls for action

A SPIRITED SPEECH and impassioned retorts marked the speech given by Palestinian Liberation Organization representative Abdullah Abdullah in The Pit last Friday. Abdullah, a PLO representative living in Ottawa since 1972, was invited to UPEI by Senator Heath MacQuarrie to speak on the conflicts between Israeli soldiers and Palestinians now occurring in the territories occupied by Israel.

Opening to a tolerant audience, Abdullah said that the media has been very helpful in presenting what has been happening in the territories.

"I doubt that there was anyone in the street who didn't have some idea of what was happening

in the occupied territories," he said.

Abdullah said that the beatings and other abuses of Palestinians that have been reported in the media have totalled 100 killed and over 5000 affected in on way or another. He said that some towns in the occupied territories have been held under curfew by Israelies for up to 13 days, during which, Abdullah reported, citizens cannot leave their homes and medical and food supplied

are not permitted into the town.

He stated that Palestinians have been going into the streets because of frustration with their poor living conditions and the oppression from the Israeli soldiers. He said that since the area was first occupied, Palestini-

ans have experienced confiscation of their land, and imprisonment of their friends and family.

"One out of every four (persons in the territories) have been jailed at some time," he said and reported that there are 137 cases of Palestinians being killed while being held in Israeli prisons.

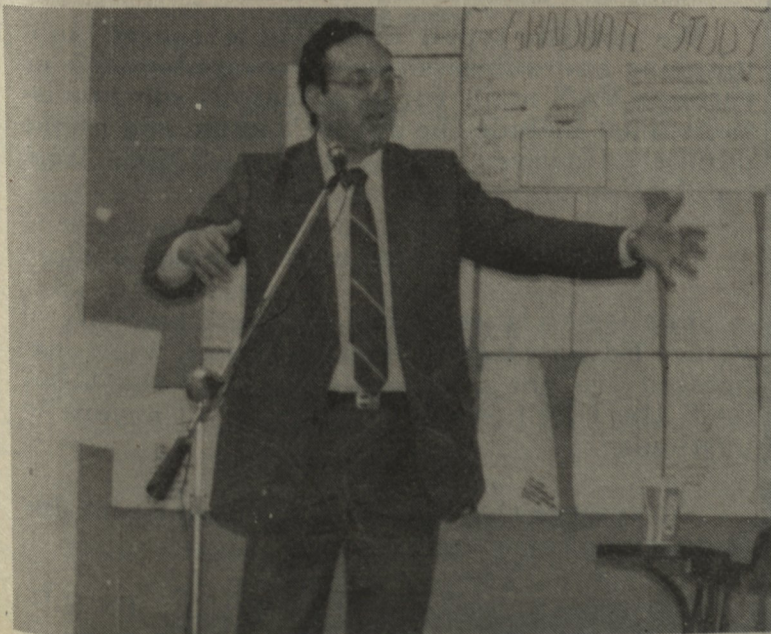
The PLO, Abdullah explained, are not the terrorist organization they have been painted to be in the past. He described the organization as "a government in exile." He stated that the PLO is organized into departments much like any other government, including programs for social welfare and Israel wants people to focus on the organization's defense wing instead. Abdullah stated that the PLO would like to see a political settlement to the disputes.

"The PLO has never abandoned its political motives. But we have never abandoned our right to exist," he said.

During a question period following the speech, one student asked Abdullah about how the media seems to have reversed it's view that the PLO is a terrorist organization. Abdullah stated that they do not control what we see on television.

"We tell the media to see us through their own eyes,

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