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News

**Student Union Elections
 "A Dud"; Emergency Meeting Held -**

With the SUB Refendum and the future of democracy at stake, the UNB Student Union called an Emergency Meeting Wednesday to consider the rescinding of the election call. After that, things really get interesting - see page 1 and Op/Ed page 4.

Daycare Funding Accepted in Part -

UNB Student Union partially accepts to fund the Daycare, but the STU Student Union nixes funding - see page 3

Dean of Students Reappointed -

Tom Austin is reappointed to the Dean of Students position for another 5 year term - see page 3.

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What if they had an election and nobody came?

by Gordon Loane

In what can only be described as a confusing set of circumstances, two last minute meetings of the UNB Student Council have failed to cancel student elections and a SUB referendum slated for next week.

In a further twist, candidates who were acclaimed following the close of nominations will now face a Yes/No vote. Student Union Vice-President Pat FitzPatrick says administrative error is to blame.

As late as Wednesday afternoon, all systems were go. Tanya Goguen, Chief Returning Officer, had completed a routine check on the academic status of all election candidates, disqualifying two; one running for Vice-President External, and another for an Arts seat on council.

That decision set up a scenario in which all members of the SU Executive were acclaimed. A lack of interest in the election resulted in 16 other members of council being acclaimed as well.

Five other seats in Education, Arts, Nursing and Physical Education had no contestants, necessitating an extension of last Friday's deadline for nominations to this past Thursday.

Just two Science seats were up for election. Three candidates declined their intention by the nomination deadline.

Other student positions acclaimed were for seats on the UNB Board of Governors and Senate, the Board of Directors of *The Brunswickian* and for 1995 Grad Class President and Secretary-Treasurer.

Nominations had to be extended for one student senate seat, and four positions on the CHSR-FM Board of Directors.

Just one position on the 1995 Grad Class Executive, the Vice-President was being contested.

Four candidates were vying for 1994 Grad Class Valedictorian.

The lack of candidates in the election coupled with fears of a low voter turnout for an all-important SUB referendum sparked concerns about the timing of the election.

"Various councillors expressed concern to the SU Executive," said current president James van Raalte.

It all lead to a call for a special meeting of council on Wednesday night, where some 23 of 29 councillors showed up.

But before the meeting could begin, Student Council Chair Jeff London ruled it could not proceed. London said council had earlier set the next regular council meeting for next Wednesday, February 23.

Since Wednesday night's meeting was called without the proper 12-hour notice for an emergency meeting, he could not legally convene the meeting.

Councillors then agreed informally to set an emergency meeting

for Thursday morning at 8:30am to decide the fate of the election.

At Wednesday's gathering an informal discussion was held and opinions sought around the table. It sparked a lively debate.

Some councillors asked pointed questions of the SU Executive asking why certain decisions were being taken and by whom. Clearly, van Raalte and FitzPatrick were put on the defensive.

van Raalte, calling the previous election campaign, with all of its

acclamations, a real "dud", said there were few candidates and even fewer posters up.

"Getting people out to vote for a SUB referendum vote be even a greater challenge," he said.

FitzPatrick said lack of public relations cut down on the potential number of candidates.

"The big difference between this year's elections and those held last spring were lack of publicity and the earlier timing of the vote," he said.

Last year's elections were held in the latter part of March. Still, other theories were advanced for the lack of candidates

Engineering representative Andrew Van Wart said eliminating the yes/no vote would ensure a lack of turnout at the polls.

"I'm an incumbent councillor and I ignored the election deadlines until practically the last minute," he continued. "I'm one who believes

-see Election, page 8

Students complain: digestive maladies abound

by Jonathan Stone

If you were one of the people who attended the sold-out India Night last Friday, then you may have left with more than you bargained for.

After eating, a number of students experienced such digestive problems as vomiting and diarrhea which lasted well into the next day. At least 20 people reported such discomforts.

One student, who wishes to remain anonymous, said that she even missed Monday's classes because she felt exhausted and was still experiencing frequent diarrhea, stomach pain and a burning sensation in the same area.

She said she is a strong supporter of such cultural nights, and worries that this will keep students away from future events.

"It could cause a bad name for the different societies who put on these shows."

Carol Jordan, a nurse at the UNB Health Centre, said that there have been calls from concerned students who attended the event.

Although the guilty menu item is not known, Jordan said that the disorder could have been caused by mayonnaise, a cream, or something

stuffed with meat.

"If these were prepared in advance and left out in the air, they could have become contaminated," she said

The evening's menu consisted of butter chicken curry, rice pilaf, unleavened bread, samosas chickpeas with curry, and a sweet, creamy dessert called burfi.

The president of the Indian Students' Association, Karim Aratsu, on behalf of the membership and executive of the UNBISA, has issued a public apology to all patrons, stating that "the matter is being fully investigated to prevent any such recurrence."

Preeti Ramprasad, India Night food organizer was also apologetic. "We're very sorry," she said, "we've worked very hard to bring this together and we're taking this very hard."

Both Aratsu and Ramprasad feel that the combination of mango juice and hot spicy food might be one reason for the problems, or that people did not heed the recommended servings of each menu item, which had their ingredients listed.

This raises the question of how food service is regulated in such events—events where the organiza-

tions involved cannot afford to hire the university to prepare the food.

In such cases, organizers must first apply to Food Services for permission to bring in food by themselves. In the application, a waiver is signed which releases the university from all responsibility.

When this is completed and approved by the university, the organization is on their own.

The Director of Housing and Food Services, Roy Brostowski, said that applicants must read and understand the rules in the application, which include a section on conforming to standards set by the provincial Department of Health. He said that applicants are made aware of the legal consequences of signing the waiver.

On its' application, the UNBISA indicated that the food for their event would be coming from Indian Families around Fredericton.

"Everybody who cooked lives around town, and I've eaten at their tables. They're very good cooks and they're very hygienic," said Ramprasad.

Brostowski, who makes recommendations about the applications

-see Food, page 7



Some engineering students display their proven techniques for tension release last week on Buchanan Hill in the Kamakaze Downhill Chair Race. Photo by Kent Rainville