

Student aid Chris Pratt's top concern

By DAVE SIMMS

Christopher B.J. Pratt announced Wednesday he will run for president of the University of New Brunswick Students' government in an election slated Feb. 12.

Revision of provincial student aid programs, he said in an interview, is the highest priority of his campaign platform.

The arts junior from Philadelphia promised to provide responsible leadership which would voice student sentiment. Pratt, 20, said he would aim for a reduction of the grant ceiling—now \$1,100—to make it similar with levels in Quebec and Ontario.

Pratt said the dean of students' input would be needed to overcome the tendency for university enrolment to be selective on financial grounds. Students, he said, "may come out of it (university) really badly off financially." A debt of \$5-6,000 after graduation he termed "absurd."

Pratt is president of Neville House, former president of the UNB Political Science Students' Association and College Hill Student Radio new director.

He listed other planks in his campaign platform.

Use of campus media by all council members, he said, should

be promoted to keep students informed.

Planners of SRC special events should be accountable to council to keep losses to a minimum. He suggested the losses incurred during Fall Festival could have been avoided and disapproved of the planned deficit for Winter Carnival of over \$2,000.

The SRC, said Pratt, will have to work with the UNB administration to insure students aren't pushed out of a highly competitive housing market as Fredericton expansion continues.

The two groups must combine with provincial and municipal governments to have equitable landlord and tenant legislation established. Input by the students' dean, again, will be crucial.

The option of establishing co-educational residences should be studied by the SRC, RRC, students', men's and women's deans and a proposal submitted to the administration. Pratt said there has already been established the precedent of co-ed accommodation during the summer.

Students must make a budgetary proposal to the administration to have Harriet Irving Library hours extended all year rather than just at examinations.

The viability of establishing a financial advisor for students—

under the students' dean's office—should be investigated.

Pratt said he supported the idea of non-alcoholic entertainment on campus. These would not detract from regular pubs, he said. He said the idea was "long overdue."

He said costs of the SRC executive should be reduced so long as "the job was still being done." SRC president Peter Galoska's investment in a Dictaphone was not justified, he said, and he questioned the executive's \$1,600 telephone budget.

Pratt called for cooperation between the SRC executive and members to best represent students. He referred to a motion made at Monday's council meeting assuring non-executive councillors use of SRC office phones. This, he said, shouldn't have happened and indicated a lack of rapport between the two groups.

Pratt said the SRC should support the dean of students' efforts to centralize student services.

Communication between the SRC and RRC should be increased, he said. The RRC Wednesday accepted in principle Pratt's motion to have a non-voting SRC member sit on the residence group's meetings with the aim of keeping both bodies informed.

Pratt said an entrance fee to all

athletic events should be established. If students were allowed a full understanding of the move, he said, most would support an effort to keep varsity sports from declining.

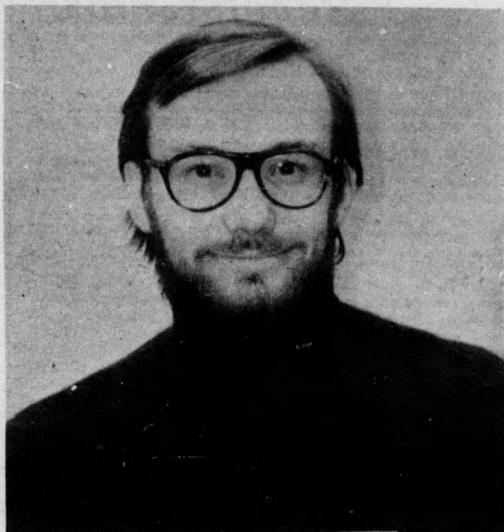
He said he would maintain as honest and open a leadership as possible. Pratt opposed any idea of meeting the president only by appointment and said he would keep himself "approachable."

Asked what weaknesses or failings he would present, Pratt said it was probably his faith in

people. "I'll attempt to work on the basis students aren't apathetic," he said. Pratt said he would work towards rousing student interest and involvement and cater to as many students as possible.

His effectiveness, he said, would be ultimately dependent on "what people around me would be willing and able to do."

Pratt said SRC comptroller Chris Gilliss had done this to a large degree. "Chris has always worked in the best interests of the students," he said.



Chris B. J. Pratt

Photo by Steve Patriquin

Student senator pledges strong leadership; pricing examination

By DERWIN GOWAN

Student Senator Warren McKenzie has announced that he is going to run for the position of Student Representative Council President. He has held a meeting with his campaign committee and has started to work out a platform.

"I think I can bring to the presidency strong leadership abilities," he said. He added, "I plan on running a clean, positive campaign."

One of his main platform planks is to look into the pricing problems at the bookstore. Book prices are getting too high. "There is a need to keep the cost down to students," he said.

Along these lines, McKenzie said, "The SRC should be more

than an entertainment organization." Costs to students should be cut and more ways should be come up with to generate revenue.

McKenzie said there should be a "fair distribution of money for entertainment purposes." There should be events for people who do not drink or who are under age. "They have as much right to be entertained as the rest of the student body."

The SRC should have better communication with the rest of the student body and opinions should be more actively solicited. This is why McKenzie suggested to council that the position of Public Relations Officer be established.

Part of the problem with respect to apathy is that "we don't really try to explain ourselves." Council

should find out what people want. "We're a representative body, not a dictatorial body."

McKenzie suggested that there be an SRC Forum column in The Brunswickan. Also, council members should spend more time in the SRC office, possibly each councillor taking a shift. This would keep council people more informed and make councillors more available to their constituents.

McKenzie said that all too often, the Vice-President becomes a "fulcrum for the teter totter between the President and the Comptroller." Often, the Vice-President does not feel like a part of the "executive team." The VP could do more, like doing housing surveys. "He can be an important member of the team."

McKenzie said that he has had as much to do with external relations as anyone on campus. He was pleased with progress made in forming an Atlantic Association of Student Unions and Ontario universities now realize that UNB is a viable institution. He said that representatives of some Ontario universities were "amazed" at the way we do things, as they are better than their systems. People realize that UNB is "more than a building in the middle of a cow pasture."

McKenzie wants to cut SRC expenses where possible. Some organizations had their budgets cut this year, and Student Union fees are going up ten dollars next year. McKenzie said he will make a personal commitment to keep the expenses of the president's office down if he is elected.

McKenzie also wants to delegate more authority. This must be done to get councillors and interested students and groups involved. However, he says he will not make pretensions at delegating the authority it is not his to delegate.

Yearbook campaign full steam ahead

University of New Brunswick students, said student government comptroller Chris Gilliss, could be without a yearbook in 1975.

By Tuesday, only 750 yearbooks had been sold, he said, and the contract between the Students' Representatives Council and the publishers, National School Services Ltd., calls for 1,000 sales by the end of January.

Gilliss said the sales had been affected by organizational problems and a slow start of the promotion campaign. Yearbook editor Roy Neale said the promotion—now in full swing—got off to a slow start because the 1974 book was late. Neale said he planned to start the campaign the same time as the 1974 release and sell on the public confidence generated.

If there is an indication of

confidence, he said, the staff will feel justified to go ahead with the book. The book will be on sale today for \$8 at the SRC office in the Student Union Building.

Preliminary work has already been done on the assumption there will be 1,000 sales by the end of the month. "I'd hate to see it fall through," said Gilliss. The yearbook is subsidized by the SRC.

Promotion will include exposure through posters, the College Hill Student Radio, The Brunswickan and door-to-door solicitations in the residences.

Diane Phillips, in charge of layout and design, said the campaign should have been started long ago. "We have the cover design and the first 17 pages done. It'll be a shame if we don't have a book just because we're short 250."

Ecologist to present lecture

Dr. Lemieux, professor in the faculty of forestry and geology at the University of Laval, will deliver an address entitled "Quebec Ecological Reserves Act: A Four-Year Successful Lobby." The lecture begins at 8 p.m. Tuesday, January 28, in Room 146 of Loring Bailey Hall.

Lemieux is a Canadian ecologist and conservationist, and will be here under the auspices of the visiting lectures committee and department of biology.

Quebec's Ecological Reserves Act, which guarantees the preservation of a designated area of land in its natural state, was brought about largely through the efforts of Dr. Lemieux. Dr. Lemieux was instrumental in both identifying the area of land and lobbying for the legislation.

He is a graduate of the Horticultural School at Montreal Botanical Gardens and the National School of Horticulture in Versailles, France.