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Students to decide on football at UNB

NEIL DUXBURY AND GORDON LOANE
THE BRUNSWICKAN

A student referendum later this fall will decide whether UNB's varsity football program, will be revived.

By a 13-2 margin the UNB Student Council voted earlier this week to send the following question to referendum: "Do you wish to see a varsity football program supported and maintained at UNB through a \$10 annual student levy in addition to the student activity fee to be collected starting September 1997 to the year 2007?" UNB has approximately 7100 undergraduate students who will be eligible to vote in the referendum.

A group called "Friends of UNB Football" has quietly been seeking funding to start up and operate a football program beginning in September of 1998. The group expects that they will need \$133,000 to start-up the program and a further \$114,200 dollars in its first year of operation. Revenue for start-up costs would be a partnership between UNB students, alumni and corporate sponsorship. The group says \$35-40,000 has already been committed from individuals and companies that at this point do not wish to be named. All monies would be under the control of the UNB Football Club, a non-profit corporation. This corporation would be run by a Board of Directors comprising alumni, donors and students.

"It's a leap of faith with little or no risk attached to it," spokesperson Craig Young told Council. "Because if we, by such and such a date, have not come up with the other \$62,000 to put the team on the field, then everyone walks away from the table."

Monique Scholten, UNBSU VP Finance and Administration, feels that she has not seen enough hard facts. "I've seen one guy come to Council and ask that each student give him \$10 so he can start a football team but I haven't seen anything that shows there's a need for this on campus."

"We are trying to send out a message about enhancing the quality of education. Supporting a football team seems counter-productive. It seems frivolous," she said.

Mike Dollimore, who is heading Friends of UNB Football, argues that a revitalized football team will have a positive impact on campus.

"Learning goes beyond academics. This is also a social institution, a community which

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Carlos del Junco was one of the many talented, renowned artists at this year's Harvest Jazz and Blues Festival. Brunswickan coverage begins on page 9. ELISE CRAFT PHOTO

Former Safewalk member guilty of one count of assault, but Smith found not guilty of sexual assault

K BROOKLAND
THE BRUNSWICKAN

(As in last week's issue, the identities of the complainants will be protected by referring to them as Complainant A, B and C.)

The jury came back with verdicts in the Jacob Kees Smith trial last Thursday, after only three and a half hours of deliberation.

The former Neill House resident had been charged with three counts of sexual assault and the included offences of assault.

Smith was found not guilty on the three sexual assault charges and guilty on one of the three assault charges (in relation to complainant B's case).

Prior to the verdicts, Michael Ryan began the defense's case and called only two witnesses, Craig Rainer and Smith.

The day began with Ryan calling Rainer, Smith's best friend, to the

stand, Rainer, referring to the November 3 incident, said that after the fire alarm he, Smith, and complainant B returned to Smith's room. "I saw her on Jacob's knee. I never saw them kiss or anything; they were frolicking," said Rainer.

He told the court he had gone upstairs to get another beer, and stayed there for about 15 minutes. When he returned complainant B had gone. He said that at this point complainant A came in.

Rainer then walked a friend of his home and when he came back "the cops were there," he said.

He stated he had been friends with Smith for eight years and admitted to discussing the events in question with Smith.

Ryan then called Smith to the stand and asked Smith about the events of September 22.

Smith admitted he started drinking that night around 8:00 with a group

of his friends, both male and female. "I was dancing with this girl, dirty dancing, you know grinding and stuff. We were French kissing," said Smith. He did not know her name at the time. He said he asked her upstairs and that she said no, not now.

Smith said he asked her upstairs again and she agreed. He helped her upstairs. They went to Craig's room but it was either locked or there was someone in it, so they went to a room next door.

They were in the room and he left to get a condom, came back and they were kissing, and then she said no. "It was the first time in the evening that she indicated no," Smith said. He said he rolled over, straightened out his clothes, and went back to his room.

He said he was going back to his room to sleep but as it was being used he went up to his girlfriend's residence (Vanier Hall, on Saint Thomas University campus) and

slept there. Regarding the November 3 incident, Smith told Ryan he had 10 glasses of Red Death at a party on the third floor. After he left the party "my concept of time was gone," Smith said.

He went back to his room and complainant B came in and "sat in my lap," said Smith. Then she sat on the bed. "Then I think I walked her upstairs but I'm not sure," he said.

Smith said that after he came back to his room after the fire alarm had gone off. "The next thing I can recall is Craig leaving and A was with me and we started kissing. I closed the door and turned out the light."

"We had sexual intercourse. She was aware of what was going on, she was awake," said Smith, admitting he does not remember much after that.

In redirect testimony, Smith told Drain he did walk complainant B upstairs but when asked about the bruise on her arm Smith said, "I do



Smith, waiting for the verdict outside the courthouse last week. PAT FITZPATRICK PHOTO



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