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This is the last regular issue of the Bruns.

CLASSIFIEDS WILL RUN next week, but there will be no letters, opinions, poems, etc.

Remember to pick up the spool next week!

Good Luck on Exams.

**University must balance its budget
 100 professors offered retirement**

by Gordon Loane

UNB is offering a special early retirement incentive to 100 of its professors and librarians on both the Fredericton and Saint John campuses.

Why? The university is struggling to cope with an operating deficit forecasted to reach \$2.2 million in 1994-95, and \$4.9 million in 1995-96.

The university administration and the Association of UNB Teachers, which represents professors and librarians, have been working jointly on the package for the last year.

Those affected have until May 1 of 1995 to decide whether to grab the package.

"Some may choose to retire immediately, which would mean July 1 of this year, while others may wish to wait before retiring July 1 of next year," said James Horn, UNB's Director of Personnel Services. "Seventy-five professors and librarians are eligible for the voluntary package this year, while 25 are eligible in 1995."

Only those who meet the incentive's 85-factor, which is the sum of the age and the pensionable service, will be eligible. Depending upon age, up to a maximum of five years pensionable service will be added at the time of early retirement.

"Just how many of those eligible decide to accept is open to speculation at this point," said Horn, who expects to have a clearer picture by next January. Some think the package will have few takers while others say more than half will opt for it."

UNB President Robin Armstrong is trying to place a positive face on developments. In a letter dated March 25 and sent to all professors and librarians, Armstrong said it makes sense for UNB to recruit new faculty members now before a bidding war for their services breaks out at the end of the decade. Armstrong stated that unprecedented numbers of faculty retirements are expected at most universities by then.

"It will not be unlike that which occurred during the 1960's," said Armstrong.

Only employees in the AUNBT bargaining unit are being offered the early retirement incentive. Those support staff represented by the UNB Employees Association are not eligible.

The university has been struggling to meet its bottom line because of an operating grant freeze imposed by the provincial government. Last year, the McKenna government imposed a 5% tuition fee cap on universities over a two-year period. UNB increased tuition fees

by the maximum of 5% last year, so it must do without a tuition increase this year.

Just what further measures the university intends to adopt to balance its books should become known later next week. The univer-

sity's Board of Governors meets next Thursday to set its operating budget for 1994-95, but a few selective job cuts have already occurred in certain departments in the last few weeks. University officials are refusing to speculate whether

further job cuts are imminent despite the early retirement package and other measures already adopted.

"A few adjustments have been made to reflect certain annual budget decisions," Horn confirmed.

STU SU considers court action

by Gordon Loane

STU Student Union Vice-President Kelly Lamrock says council will decide soon whether to proceed with legal action against the New Brunswick government in lieu of proposed changes to the Youth Assistance Act.

Amendments to the Act, which govern the provincial student loan program, were introduced in the legislature last week by Advanced Education and Labour Minister Vaughn Blaney.

"The legislation does provide that in the general case, those with a history of credit abuse will not be able to get provincial student loans at public expense," said Blaney in remarks made in the legislature last week.

For months, the government has indicated that those over the age of 22 who apply for a student loan for the first time would be subjected to credit checks and could have their applications rejected for past credit abuse.

"We may challenge this under the Charter of Rights and Freedoms," said Lamrock. "Preliminary indications from our legal advisors suggest there could be grounds for a challenge under Section 2 or Section 15 of the Charter. Section two, among other things, prevents discrimination on the basis of age, while Section 15 provides for Equality Rights. Philosophically, we disagree with the principle that anyone should be denied access to higher education, no matter what their circumstances," said Lamrock.

Lamrock thinks the Canadian Federation of Students in New Brunswick may become involved in the case.

"They may wish to become a third party intervenor in the legal challenge," said Lamrock.

In any case, Lamrock says council has set aside money in its contingency fund to proceed with the action.

"I expect that council will arrive at a final decision whether to proceed sometime this summer or at the latest early next fall," said Lamrock.

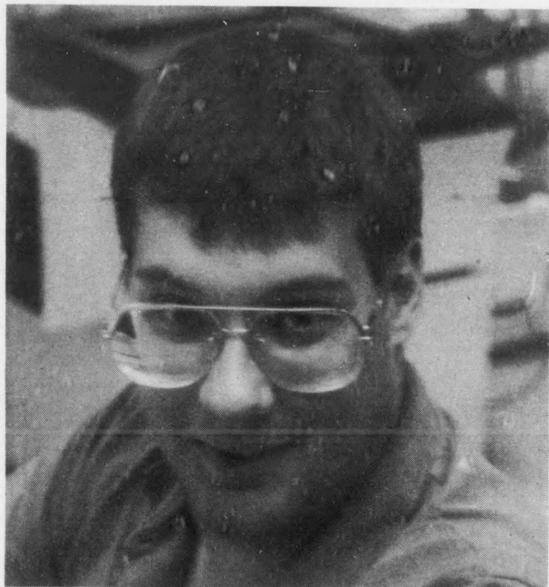
In the meantime, Blaney announced last week the establishment of a Credit Review Board that would take a second look at cases where student loan applicants have been rejected because of credit problems. The review would take

place at the student's request, but decisions of the Credit Review Board would not be binding on the Minister, according to the proposed legislation.

"This is something that we have been pushing for despite our philo-

sophical differences about their credit abuse policy," said Lamrock. "I'm pleased to see that the government has recognized that there may be cases where exceptions apply. It

-See Court Action, page 3.



STU's SU Vice-President, Kelly Lamrock. Photo by the Fitz

Search continues for white van

Brunswickan staff

Fredericton City Police are still seeking public assistance as an investigation into a hit-and-run accident which claimed the life of UNB Engineering Professor Alan McLean enters its fourth month.

Police believe McLean was struck from behind while walking home along the Woodstock Road when returning from a social gathering. An autopsy revealed McLean died instantly of "massive injuries." The accident occurred in the early morning hours of Saturday January 8.

"We're becoming very frustrated," said Corporal Bob Ross, who is heading the investigation for City Police.

"After the accident was re-enacted for the Crime Stoppers program, we received several tips from the public, but after checking these out we have nothing new to go on," said Ross. "I'm afraid it's going to be a long investigation."

Ross said that it is even more

frustrating for the McLean family.

"They have many questions that we have so far been unable to answer. We're still hoping that someone will provide us with information that will be helpful, or that the person or persons responsible for this accident will eventually come forward," he said.

Police are still looking for a three-to five-ton truck with double tires on the rear axle. It is believed the truck is white with one word in red paint written across the back.

Crime Stoppers is still offering a \$2000 reward for information which leads to the arrest of the person or persons responsible for this accident.

UNB's Associate Dean of Engineering Michael Ircha says he is unaware of any current plans in the university community to increase the reward money at this time.

McLean came to UNB in 1990 to assume the duties of the J. Herbert Smith ACOA Chair in Technology Management and Entrepreneurship.