

NEWS

News Editors: Cynthia Kirkby and Joe FitzPatrick Deadline: Wednesday Noon

Newsbits

Studying the Sistine Chapel

An unprecedented private viewing of the Sistine Chapel, and an interview with a neo-fascist and a communist Italian politician, were the highlights of the 1995 study abroad program in Rome which is offered by the University of New Brunswick's faculty of arts.

"We only found out about these things a week before we were set to leave. It was quite a surprise," said Michael Flinn, who was present for both the chapel lecture and the interviews. "My jaw really did drop when we entered the chapel. It was breathtaking."

Daphne Rae, another student, agrees. "It was a rare privilege that we got to go in alone. The ceiling is spectacular - you could study it forever."

The meeting with politicians representing the extreme right and left wings of the Italian political spectrum took place just after students had discussed Mussolini's role in modern Italian history.

"[The neo-fascist politician] tried to distance himself from the old image of fascism, and he talked about developing a plan for Italy without government corruption." He commented that the communist politician was interested in federalism along the lines of the Canadian system of government.

Study Abroad programs are offered each year by the faculty of arts and the department of extension and summer session. In the spring of 1996 students will be able to take classics courses from UNB professors during a study trip to Western and Aegean Turkey. For information about this program, contact Michael Mills or James Murray at UNB's department of classics and ancient history at 453-4763.

Computer network celebrated

Twenty-five years after the formation of the New Brunswick/Prince Edward Island Computer Network, its 10 member institutions celebrated its silver anniversary this week at UNB.

The directors of computing at the network's member campuses gave a presentation on the educational computer network's past, present and future to the presidents of the member institutions, which include UNBF, UNBSJ, and STU.

"This network is a highly successful example of co-operation between post-secondary institutions," said Greg Sprague, manager of user services for the computing services department. "This co-operation has meant a significant cost saving for everyone involved." Network members benefit from sharing the cost of regional connections to the Internet and participating in joint software site licenses.

Excellent teachers honoured

The 48 teachers who have been awarded the Allan P. Stuart Award for Excellence in Teaching at UNB were recognized last week. Chancellor Fredrik S. Eaton unveiled a plaque honouring them in the Great Hall of the Old Arts Building.

"We value teaching and want to help improve the quality of teaching at the university in any way we can," said 1993 recipient and law professor David Townsend. The Stuart Group is pleased that there are already official programs in place that provide formal training, such as UNB's Teaching Centre.

As well, they are providing a mentorship program for new faculty, co-ordinated by Bill Mullin, 1991 recipient and director of undergraduate studies in biology. "Nineteen of the teaching award winners have volunteered to share experiences with new colleagues in informal discussions," he said.

The excellence in teaching awards recognize outstanding teaching on the basis of nominations from students and faculty. They are named in honour of the late Allan P. Stuart, a respected professor of chemistry from 1946 to 1973 and one of the first recipients of an excellence in teaching award. This year's additions were a nurse and a historian.

Julie Parent dismissed

Councilor Julie Parent (Science) has been removed from Council after missing 8 consecutive meetings of Council. The Chair and Executive Assistant have repeatedly attempted to contact Parent, who has not returned phone calls. Parent has not been by the Union offices since her election. The question of a by-election has been taken under advisement.

Engineer makes Freudian slip

Mike Blanchard (Engineering) made a Freudian slip at Council this past Tuesday. Blanchard mistakenly referred to the Student Union as "the stupid union." What was worse was he was applying for a grant from the "stupid union." The grant, in the amount of \$500 towards the Conference on Engineering Professional Development, was granted anyway.

Students rally in Montreal



Students in Montreal, supporting Canada.

Photo by Mark Bray

by Cynthia Kirkby
Co-News Editor

Early last Friday morning, over 300 students departed from the SUB to take part in a No rally in Montreal. Despite an absent police escort, a lack of food and drink, and a considerable gap in the convoy of buses, the trip was successful.

Of the 285 seats available on the five SMT buses and four school buses, all but 50 were reserved. By 8:30 on Thursday, four hours before the buses were to leave, these seats were filled. Several cars travelled with the buses as well, so that, according to VP University Affairs Chantale Walker, only 10 people were left without transportation to Montreal.

Why was student interest so strong? "I thought it was a good chance to show my pride in Canada and demonstrate a

need for national unity," said Mark Bray, a concerned Canadian. He admitted that at least 10 to 20% of the students were going for less patriotic reasons. "It was uncalled for to motivate people with the offer of free beer," he commented.

The refreshments were supposed to be funded by Frank McKenna's office, which did pay for the school buses and gas for 15 cars. "Once we started going, there wasn't really a contention. Everyone was glad they went, even without the beer and pizza," said Bray. Travellers did receive drinking boxes, courtesy of McCain's.

The buses met up an hour and a half outside of Montreal, since the school buses couldn't go as fast as the SMT buses, said Walker. Once in Montreal, the students listened to a balance of speakers from politicians to young French

Canadians supporting the No side.

After the speeches, which Bray estimated took "less than an hour, cars and people took over the downtown, honking, waving flags, and shouting."

Although Walker commented that a gathering of 100,000 supporters from all over the country must have made a positive impact on the fence sitters, Bray disagreed. "I don't think we made a difference. People pretty much had their minds made up."

He added, however, that the gathering was "really constructive in the sense that people from across the nation got together to show national pride in a way they haven't since the Centennial. Too bad that something like this had to happen to bring Canadian pride to the surface."

"Now it's in the hands of the politicians. That's kind of scary."

Secretary dismissal withdrawn

by Gordon Loane
Brunswickan News

SU President Kelly Lamrock says "a misunderstanding" has been cleared up and Joe FitzPatrick is free to stay in his job as SU recording secretary.

The SU Executive had voted unanimously last week to dismiss FitzPatrick over an incident involving credit card statements and their distribution in the Student Union office. Council, led by Shona Bertrand (Law) objected to the process and forced a

motion to be made at Council. The motion was tabled until this week.

Lamrock had been after a full credit card statement which had been faxed by the credit card company to the SU office, which Lamrock did not receive. A letter, containing the same information, was also sent by the company to the Student Union.

"Lamrock received the letter, but not the fax and he assumed I had taken the fax," said Joe FitzPatrick. "In fact, what I had was the September credit card statement that came into my possession which no one in the SU office seemed to have," FitzPatrick said. "I photocopied the September statement and distributed it to the SU Accountant and Law Representative Shona Bertrand who happened to be in the Student Union offices at the time," FitzPatrick said.

"Additional copies [made by the Accounting staff] went to all members of the SU Executive," FitzPatrick said.

A meeting between Lamrock and FitzPatrick cleared the matter up. "Once it was discovered that there were two different documents in question, there wasn't a problem in Lamrock's mind," FitzPatrick said.

Lamrock, while declining to discuss the specifics of the matter with *The Brunswickan*, said FitzPatrick did nothing wrong. "I have full confidence in him," said Lamrock, who withdrew the motion to dismiss FitzPatrick at this past Tuesday's Council meeting.

Record turnout for GSA meeting

by Charlene Deyarmond
Brunswickan News

The GSA meeting held on Tuesday had the biggest turnout yet this year. These extra voices caused tension with contradicting opinions on many of the changes that the disorganized executive committee wanted to implement.

The first topic on the agenda was that quorum be changed from fifty to thirty because of the lack of attendance at prior meetings. Many grad students, however, voiced the concern that this would not be a representative amount, and that more would attend if there was notice of a time and place where the meeting was to be held. After much debate and discussion the new quorum was passed thirty-eight to thirty-five, and the executive council promised to consider the concerns that were voiced. However, when Dennis Woo, president of GSA, was asked when another meeting would take place, he responded: "No time could be confirmed."

Another resolution which passed was

to change the amount being put aside for the Grad House fund. The executive committee wanted it changed from \$20 to 15% of the GSA fee, which is set at \$50 this year. One concerned student stated that "The class of 86 set up this fund, and gave money without expecting to see the results. Now we are taking it away from future students".

Another vote was taken and passed on lowering the amount given to the student media (*The Brunswickan* and *CHSR*). Michael Lamoureux, GSA rep, stated that "The Bruns does not want to work with us. We are very restricted with what we can do with our 1/2 page - we can't do what we intended". Shelly Luce, 2nd VP of GSA, replied that it shouldn't be looked at that way. "It is our publication, not just because we need free advertising. It is there to read or voice our opinions".

Many of the topics on the agenda to be discussed were unable to be covered due to the lengthy and sometimes heated debates over the proposed changes.