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—Frank Zappa

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The University of Alberta Students' Newspaper Since 1910



Oiler first round pick Francois Leroux decks this Bear. Story p 18

Food service gouging students — David Tupper

by Jeff Cowley

Housing and Food Services are "gouging" student's pockets to make budgetary ends meet, said David Tupper, Students' Union V.P. Internal.

Housing and Food raised prices in Lister and CAB cafeterias August 1. Forty-six out of one hundred and fifty food item prices were increased.

Tupper will take evidence to the administration showing, he believes, that Housing and Food misled University officials and Students' Union to allow "unfair" price increases to creep past the administration. He hopes his case will reverse the recent price jumps.

"It concerns me that they are called 'Housing and Food Serv-

ices'. I should be their job to serve people who can't afford to eat anyplace else," said Tupper. However the University delivered a mandate telling Housing and Food to break even in their document "The Next Decade and Beyond" last year.

The Board of Governors, who oversaw Housing and Food proposals, passed an approximately five percent increase to match Statistics Canada cost of living, last spring.

"The actual increases far exceed what was approved by the Board of Governors," said Tupper.

Students' Union is convinced that Housing and Food officials used "creative calculation" to disguise what they consider to be actual price increases.

After studying a price list from Housing and Foods, Tupper calculates that students will be paying an average seven percent more at Lister and CAB cash tills. Some foods bumped up as much as 170 percent, such as a fresh fruit cup.

"We are just trying to pay our bills," said David Bruch, Director of Housing and Foods.

"Business is business," he went on.

"Until last year, campus food outlets were more or less non-profit companies operating on a deposit," said Kim Nash, Food Service officer.

GOUGED — p 3

Subway closure controversy

by Kevin Law

The Students' Union Building has lost one of the largest food service outlets on campus.

Last April, University Administration closed SUBWAY, a cafeteria on the second floor of SUB, that, according to one source, serviced 20 percent of the campus on a regular basis.

The space is under the direct control of University administration. It now sits empty and will not likely be utilized as a food service.

When asked what the space would be used for, Wayne Hansen, space planning officer, replied, "There's no definite answer to that question. We've been reviewing a number of options, but the discussion hasn't reached the point where we are definite what potential use there will be."

While the SUBWAY space is presently set up as a cafeteria, it is evident the University hopes to utilize it as office space.

According to Hansen, the food facilities in the kitchen "are not very functional to suit the functions we have to accommodate." Hansen added, "We can't put a department in there and expect them to function without offices and a lot of support space, so we would have to put a lot of money into it."

The kitchen equipment is destined to be auctioned in October.

"We would hope that a long term plan would be known within a few months," Hansen said, adding, "The University has to insure funding can be obtained. It may be some time before sufficient

funds are available given the present climate we're in."

At the moment, the space is being used by the University bookstore for storage in a limited capacity.

David Bruch, director of Housing and Food Services, said SUBWAY "had been financially non-profitable for years." It had been losing approximately \$100,000 a year on average until recently when it slightly improved.

Bruch also noted SUBWAY was renovated four years ago at a cost of \$250,000 which was never recouped.

"We tried developing a different concept by expanding our product line and adding beer," he said, "but there was opposition from Students' Union over our proposal." When asked why, Bruch said "In my opinion, the S.U. was opposed because the sale of beer and food, plus extended hours, would have competed with RATT." This was confirmed by Tom Wright, past business manager for the Students' Union.

Bruch continued by stating SUBWAY was being utilized by customers only during lunch hours. He felt one of the reasons students did not support it was because the location was removed from the traffic flow by being on the second floor.

"I think students have a valid concern," he said. "It was a valid issue from 11 am to 1 pm, but it became too large of a financial strain on the university."

Bruch pointed out a number of steps being taken to help alleviate the loss, such as added seating for

200 people in CAB with 100 more to be added this year. He also noted plans to add another food operation on the ground floor of CAB, although funding could be a problem.

Bruch also listed food services in the Medical Science building and on the main floor of the Education building, plus more food services in HUB.

"The improvements we are trying to make, I think, will make up for (the loss of) SUBWAY," he said.

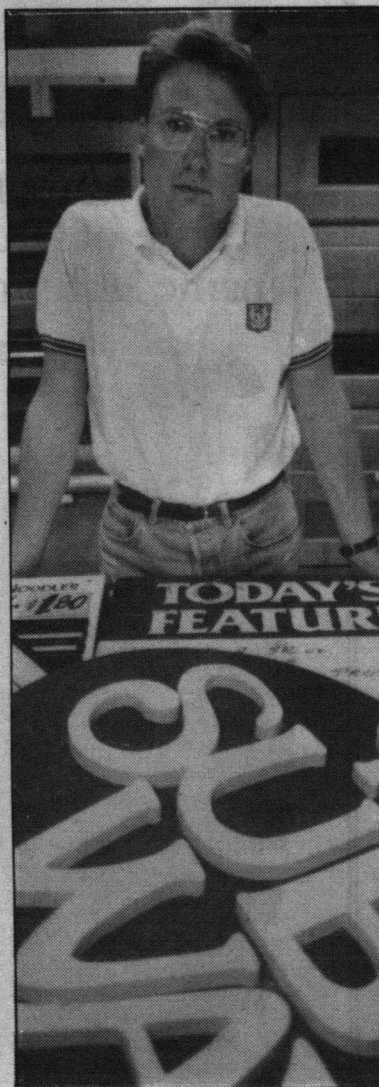
When it became known that SUBWAY was to close, the Students' Union offered the University a proposal for the complete operation of SUBWAY under S.U. control.

"When we heard they closed SUBWAY, we were very concerned for students," said Chris Welsh, VP Finance.

On May 9 of last year, the S.U. presented a proposal to University administration suggesting the S.U. operate the outlet, and, if profitable, would split half the profit with the University. If not, the S.U. would absorb the losses.

Responding to University assertions that the outlet could not make money, Welsh said "Firstly, we would have moved the games area up from the basement into the area known as the saucy noodle. On its own, the games area generates \$60,000 a year. Secondly we would have utilized lounge space for L'Express overflow, and third, we would have tried to operate the kitchen on a continuing basis (but no beer). There would have been profit at

SUBWAY — p 3



S.U. Pres. Paul LeGrange with discarded SUBWAY signs.

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Rob Galbraith

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