

news

Proper force used in Concert-goer's Eviction

By CALUM JOHNSTON
Brunswickan Staff

On the night of the Rough Trade concert, Blake Paton, CHSR program director, was forcibly removed from the concert by three Campus Police. As a result of this, Mr. Paton charged the Campus Police with assault and the use of unnecessary force in removing him from the Rough Trade concert. He said he was attending the concert and standing in the crowd when Carol Pope, Rough Trade's vocalist, asked everyone to be seated. Everyone complied but after a while a few people found the view to be unsatisfactory and stood to the side of the stage, Blake Paton among them. Mr. Paton reports that a Campus Police member told him to sit down, Paton refused and the C.P. left, returning with another C.P. and attempted to remove Mr. Paton, grabbing his arm. Paton broke away and the two C.P.'s left returning with a third. Upon reaching Mr. Paton, one clasped his throat while the other two held his arms and proceeded to carry him out. Before they reached the door, Mr. Paton passed out and awoke lying on his back with a fist poised above his head. Mr. Paton then went to the CHSR offices to get his coat and discovered that his head was bleeding in the back, apparently from being

dropped on the floor. He then went to talk to the C.P.'s at the door to complain about his forcible removal and when Mr. Paton asked why, he was told by the C.P. that "the Boss told me." Mr. Paton states he went to see Mr. James Fleming, the C.P. in charge, who allegedly told Mr. Paton that if he had a problem he should see the Dean of Students.

Blake followed Fleming's advice and went to see Barry Thompson, the Dean of Students, who forwarded Paton's complaint to the Student Disciplinary Council. (SDC)

A tribunal was appointed by the Board of Deans to mediate and decide the matter. Usually this type of matter would be heard by the SDC but the Campus Police felt it should be brought to the "higher court," being the Board of Deans. The Campus Police charged Blake with "the obstruction of a Campus Policeman in the line of his/her duty" as per the Student Disciplinary Code. Mr. Paton was sent a summons by the SDC, which was "overruled" or "cancelled" by the tribunal consisting of Dean Veitch, Dean Brewer, Dean Hughes and Professor James Woodfield and was asked to appear before the tribunal. (This point is not quite clear.)

The first hearing was ended after about a third of the evidence had been heard, as the tribunal, according to Mr. Paton, was not familiar with the documents presented, such as the C.P. constitution and the Student Disciplinary Code.

Then on March 6, 1984, at the hearing of the Board of Deans, it seemed they did not want to hear the corroborating evidence for Mr. Paton's defense as they simply asked Mr. Paton's witnesses whether or not they agreed with the evidence presented. This was conducted by the Dean of Law, whose action in "polling" the witnesses did not seem very legal to Paton's lawyer, Cindy Davis. Mr. Paton felt that the Board

wanted the matter cleared up quickly and weren't too interested in hearing witnesses' testimony. In the decision by the tribunal appointed by the Board of Deans, it said the C.P.'s used proper force in removing Mr. Paton even though Mr. Paton insists he never provoked them physically. He feels the SRC should rectify or clarify their position as to the extent of the Campus Police Force's power over the individual student. Paton also pointed out that at the "Spoons" concert, the C.P.'s were responsible to the sponsors, while at the "Rough Trade" concert, they weren't.

The campus police officials were reluctant to give "their side" of the story as they

felt the incident had dragged on long enough and didn't need any fomenting of dispute. As it is, the Board of Deans' appointed tribunal ruled "Mr. Paton's conduct justified the intervention of the Campus Police Officers" and that "the Campus Police only used the force necessary in the circumstances and did not assault Mr. Paton" and "that although the Campus Police are responsible to the SRC and the sponsors of events they have the discretion as to if and when they should act to cope with real or apprehended disorderly conduct."

Mr. Paton is afraid that this decision seems to give the C.P.'s "carte blanche" regarding the use of force.

Bridge Succumbs

By BARRY PARKINSON
Brunswickan Staff

After a lengthy bout with civic provincial politics, the Carleton St. Bridge succumbed to the demolition crews last week. The local study committee, which had envisioned a pedestrian/cyclist crossing utilization of the bridge, met with various officials last week, after which the Premier ordered the demolition work to continue. Earlier, the city had been offered ownership of the bridge for \$1,000,000.00; the money allocated for demolition, minus the costs thus far,

was to be transferred to the city. This offer had been made twice before; it was rejected once more.

Although the Citizen's Bridge Committee was understandably disappointed in the outcome of the episode, it did not believe that its efforts and funds were wasted. In a public letter, Barbara Durling, spokesperson for the committee wrote, "We are thankful for the lessons learned in the raising of civic consciousness."

No doubt, the citizens of Fredericton are thankful for their efforts.



Students using 5¢ copier at CSL exchange

CSL opens Copy Center

Student Union President John Bosnitch has obtained three more Canon photocopiers for the five-cent Copy Center in the SUB Book Exchange. Bosnitch bought a Canon NP 270 for \$3700 (the machine does reductions, enlargements, transparencies and two-sided copying). Canon also gave him another two copiers, one permanently and another for one month. The Center, which started with one copier, now will have four capable of hand-

ling a total volume of 160,000 copies per month.

"The expansion of this operation is symbolic of our commitment to decent low-priced student services," Bosnitch said. "The steady income from the Copy Center (SUB room 126) will pay the operating costs of the entire Book Exchange, and allow us to greatly expand our stationery inventory." Bosnitch states that expansion of the Book Exchange inventory is the first step in taking over the

Smoke Shoppe in the SUB: "We can easily guarantee not only to maintain the present inventory in the smoke shop, but to greatly expand it and provide for the important necessary items students want at good prices."

The profits from the Copy Center, Bosnitch states, are to be used to keep the markup on stationery items in the Book Exchange to about ten per cent (the present profit from one machine is \$700 per month.)