

STU SU elections held

Dan Leger elected SU President Ricker valedictorian by 1 vote

GORDON LOANE
THE BRUNSWICKAN

Third-year Arts student and self-described Fredericton resident Dan Leger is the President-elect of the Saint Thomas Student Union.

Leger defeated his nearest opponent Pat Milner by 71 votes as a result of student General Elections this week.

Leger received 214 votes to 143 for Milner. Peter Murphy finished third with 84 votes followed by Leonard Spencer with 56. Brian Capson trailed with 55 votes.

Leger was nervous as early election poll by poll results were close, but in the end, he pulled ahead to seal the victory.

"It was really close and had us all on our toes for awhile," he told *The Brunswickan* following the final result election night.

Leger attributes his win to hard work and getting around to talk to his fellow students, both on and off campus.

"I really hit the pavement on this one," he said.

"I banged on the doors in residence and got to know the students and I think that helped a lot."

"I think the off-campus vote really helped me out as well," Leger said.

His first priority on taking office is to get a feel for the services the

SU provides and then tell students what the Union is doing for them.

"I think it is important that people have proper notification of what is going on, feel that they are a part of campus life and that their money is being well spent," he concluded.

Current Student Union President Carrie Ricker feels her successor will do a very good job.

"I've had some talks with Dan already."

"He has been inquiring about the job and what it takes to do it."

Ricker feels Leger will have a really solid executive to back him up pointing to Andrew Keleher who was acclaimed to a second term on the executive as Vice-President Activities.

Jennifer Donovan easily won reelection to a second term as Vice-President Finance defeated her only opponent Corey Taylor by a vote of 475 to 80.

"I think they are all going to have a great year," said Ricker.

"They've got a lot of ideas already and are well-known to each other (referring to Executive members)."

"I think they will make a great team."

Ricker added that the Executive will have a great Council to back them up pointing to the return of several elected representatives.

Meanwhile, in a three way race that

could not have been any closer, Ricker defeated her nearest competitor, Jeff Price, by just one vote, to emerge the winner for valedictorian of the 1997 Spring Graduating Class.

Ricker gathered 30 votes to 29 for Price. John Vink finished two votes behind Price with 27.

"I'm obviously very happy to have won, but I had some great competition," said Ricker after all the votes were counted.

"I was running against two guys who were very involved and anyone of us would have given a good speech."

"So, I'm really not surprised to see that the vote was this close," said Ricker.

In other election night results, Rod MacDonald won a two-way contest to serve as third-year representative on STU Student Council.

MacDonald gathered 80 votes to 54 for Cliff Arnold.

Nathan Benson and Gerrit Bosma will represent STU students on the CHSR-FM Board of Directors.

Benson received 380 votes, while Bosma got 301. Tonya Price failed to win one of the two seats finishing third with 230 votes.

Some 550 Saint Thomas students turned out for the General Election, or about 23 percent of eligible voters.

No complaints, no takers

March Break meal plan a failure

DOUG MACLEAN
THE BRUNSWICKAN

The residential meal plan offered by Beaver Foods for the March Break had to be cancelled due to lack of interest. Director of Housing and Food Services, Roy Brostowski, asked Beaver Foods to propose a plan for the students at the request of Assistant to the Dean of Residence, Michael Kidd and the Inter-Residence Food Committee. Kidd stated that "since March Break has become more of a study break, we thought we should offer a meal plan for students who wanted to stay in residence to study."

He went on to say that the Dean's office wanted students to feel welcome to stay, and he felt that having no plan offered could be an unwelcome gesture.

Brostowski said that he and the Dean of Residence Office were satisfied that the proposed cost of \$90.00 was reasonable for the 9-day break. He explained that this was just slightly higher than the per day cost of the regular meal plan for resident students. Brostowski said the plan was

well publicized. There were advertisements in *The Brunswickan* for the two weeks preceding the break, and posters were placed in all meal halls and in each residence. He also said that payment options were given to students interested in this plan. Beaver Foods accepts credit cards, debit cards, cheques, and cash.

Maureen Sullivan, Beaver Foods' new Food Service Director, says that Beaver was willing to provide the service to students, but she says there had to be a limit of at least 30 interested students before the plan would be feasible to them. Sullivan informed *The Brunswickan* that there was only one call of interest in the plan, and that was on the deadline day.

All food outlets were closed on the first weekend of the break. Sullivan explained that this was simply economical. In past years, it has been shown that there is no call for food service on those days. She says that if the university wanted an outlet open on those days, it would have been open. Brostowski says that opening is judged by the numbers of people using the service

on those days in the past. He also says that he has received no complaints about the lack of food service over the March Break. The Market Grille at the SUB was open from the Monday of March Break to the Sunday with limited hours. Sullivan explained that there was the normal Market Grille menu plus sandwiches from Subs2GoGo, muffins, and Second Cup coffees.

Several students who remained in residence over the break gave comments about why they did not buy the March Break residential plan. Some said it was simply too expensive. Some said that they were here for only part of the break, so they did not want to spend money on meals they would not eat. Some students who were here for the whole break said they were glad to have the chance to cook some meals in the kitchenettes. Most students I spoke with said they wanted their break to be a break too, just like those who went away, and they felt their break would have been just the same old routine of going to the meal hall twice a day.

Yearbook on track, on time

JENN BROWN
THE BRUNSWICKAN

The 1996-97 yearbook will be available for grads to pick up at the graduation ceremonies in May. Gaby Ferreira and Scott Whamend, co-editors, say that production of the book is running along schedule.

The yearbook team, consisting of 5 staff and 2 photographers had plans to get the yearbook done earlier but, because of time restraints, they were unable to accomplish the goal.

"We were hoping to get the book done earlier so that students who are not going to be here for the graduation

ceremony could save the cost of having it mailed to them. Unfortunately because we didn't get hired until the middle of November instead of September the early deadline isn't going to be possible," said Ferreira.

When asked why the editors were hired late, Trish Davidson, V-P Student Services said, "we put the ad for the job out in the middle of October because we were not sure if the person who assisted last year was coming back or not and we were waiting to hear from her."

This year, students will see a few changes in the yearbook including more attention being given to activities such as concerts and cultural events. An index

is also being included to allow students to more easily find the pictures they are looking for.

Plans for the 1997-98 yearbook are already underway. The cover will be completely different and the book itself will have 40 more pages, taking it to a total of 200. This year's editors are also hoping that there will be a change in structure, adding more features for a general appeal.

Undergraduate students who are graduating will receive copies, but non-graduating students can also purchase a copy of the yearbook, if interested, for \$10.00 in room 30 of the Student Union Building.

SU gala banquet set for April 2

JOSEPH FITZPATRICK
THE BRUNSWICKAN

Thirteen students have made applications for UNB Student Union Activity Awards according to Vice-President (Student Services) Trish Davidson.

Of those, she anticipates that most are eligible for Gold Activity Awards, with 2 or 3 eligible for Silver Awards.

The awards, made at the annual UNBSU Student Leadership Banquet are a long standing tradition at UNB. Davidson has hopes that the Awards will become even more significant, if a new plan bears out.

"I really think it should be on your transcript," she said. "If you're going to spend that much time and effort on extra-curricular activities, it should be recognized," she argued.

She is currently in discussion with the UNB Registrar, Deanne Dennison.

"Some U.S. universities offer a second transcript which lists all of the extra-curricular activities," she asserted.

The problem seems to be agreeing on a verification procedure.

This year's banquet has 170 invitees, said Davidson, down by about 100.

"There are lots of people doing more

than one thing," she said, including overlap in Councillors, Executive and senior volunteers.

One concern which was raised last



year was the lack of invitations for the volunteers from the Student Resource Centre.

Davidson defends that decision because of the numbers involved. There are 30 volunteers in the SRC. She asks where they should make the cut off. If they include students from the SRC,

would they have to invite staff from the Yearbook, *The Brunswickan* or CHSR (instead of executive members)?

Davidson, who admits that she has applied for an award, doesn't see a potential conflict of interest.

"It's a point-based system," she argues, pointing out that the committee adds up the points and makes awards. There is little discretion in her view.

"It's not like the [SU] scholarship," she commented, "That's pretty open-ended."

Meanwhile, she notes that of the 85 students who applied for the two \$500 scholarships, 40 made the first cut, and the committee has yet to decide among the 12 finalists.

Davidson claims that no members of the awards committee or close friends of the members of the awards committee were considered for the scholarship. In addition, if an individual has received a salary or honoraria from the SU already this year, she said they would be given a lower priority than an equally involved student who had not.

Davidson noted that the point schedule for the Activity Awards has been revised again this year. In particular, she is proud of expanded coverage of the Residence community. She noted with some hint of disappointment that although she raised the issue of revising the schedule at three successive council meetings, she received no response from Councillors.

Davidson remarked that there was more than one person applying who had received an award when they first graduated from UNB, and defended the practice.

"There is no doubt that they are as deserving now as they were when they received their first award," she said. In addition, Davidson contends that it may encourage really active volunteers to continue to contribute.

Some comments were made at Second Reading of the SU budget about the expense of the awards and the banquet. Although sympathetic to the concern, Davidson doesn't agree.

"I wouldn't have started out with gold rings," she said. "Maybe when they were started in better economic times," she speculates. Last year, a men's gold ring had a base cost of \$348, whereas the silver rings came in at \$199.

The Banquet will take place in the Saint John Room of the Beaverbrook Hotel, where it was held two years ago.

Davidson cited dissatisfaction with last year's reception in the SUB Ballroom in addition to financial and aesthetic considerations.

She claims she had difficulty with Beaver Foods in getting certain menu items for certain prices.

"Students want to go somewhere so they aren't sitting on plastic chairs," she said. "Somewhere where they don't feel like they're in school."

The last banquet at the Beaverbrook cost \$21.95 per plate for a buffet. The event in the SUB Ballroom last year cost \$23.50 per plate.

The budget for the event this year is \$8,500. Next year, Vice-President (Finance) Monique Scholten wants to shave it down to \$6,500.



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