



photo by Douglas Moore

At Monday's Student Council meeting, a preliminary budget for 1974-75 was approved. Details can be found on pages 6 and 7 in today's issue.

Grim financial outlook for Student's Union

by Gary Draper

Monday night, Students' Council approved a preliminary budget for next year with a proposed deficit of \$117,810. This will be a decrease of \$40,810 from this year's deficit of \$158,620.

Despite the decreased deficit, however, the Students' Union remains in severe financial

difficulty. The SU has \$500,000 in reserves but \$250,000 of that is already loaned to HUB and a further \$50,000 has been loaned to the day care center. That leaves \$200,000 to cover the \$400,000 the Students' Union owes the university in repayment of a loan to finance HUB.

At present, the Students' Union is negotiating with the university and the provincial government regarding financial assistance with the Housing Union Building.

In reply to an inquiry concerning the SU executive's plan to approach the City with a view to having property taxes reduced on HUB, Charlie Hall, vp finance, stated that the picture looks very bleak and the attempt unlikely to meet with any success.

An estimated \$45,000 is planned for an advertising program and consultant to promote the HUB mall as a commercial development. General Manager Darryl Ness said, "We have been told that we

have failed to give the mall the initial push it needs. We need an extensive advertising campaign. We have to be prepared to spend some money to raise the yield we can expect to receive."

The operating deficit is expected to decrease by \$37,000 to \$159,400 because of raised suite rents and increased commercial rents. However, the caretaking deficit is expected to more than double to \$24,750. Also, HUB maintenance costs will be increasing now that the builder's warranty has expired.

SU administrative costs will increase by \$11,450. A major reason for this increase (approximately \$6,000) is the fact that the SU executive was recently voted a substantial salary increase. The first attempt to push the bill through failed, but a subsequent attempt following the election was successful.

Services revenue is expected to increase by \$11,950. The revenues from the RATT pub will be up \$8,500, and returns

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UAB referendum on \$7.00 increase

by Gary Draper

A request for student council support of an application to the Board of Governors by the University Athletic Board for an increase in student athletic fees was defeated 6 to 10 at Monday's meeting.

UAB president Gordon Wick stated that the UAB was asking the Board of Governors for an increase of \$7 per student. This would result in a \$15 athletic fee for next year.

Wick said that the physical education faculty had indicated that they could not support the UAB to the same degree in the future, as they have in past years. Costs are rising rapidly and the fee at the U of A is minimal compared to other Canadian universities.

Wick said that he hoped the Board of Governors would pick up part of the cost themselves and that the \$7 proposal was only a maximum increase.

Science rep Jim Talbot asked Wick to break down the total UAB budget into money spent on intramural and on intercollegiate activities. Wick replied that it couldn't really be divided in that manner since the phys ed faculty picks up a large share of both programs.

He did say, however, that an approximate breakdown might be as high as four times as much money spent on intercollegiate activities as on intramurals. In answer to a later question he said that about three times as many people participated in the intramural program as in the intercollegiate one.

This prompted another question from Talbot who said, "If those proportions of the intramural to intercollegiate are true that means that about 12 times as much per student is being spent in intercollegiate sports. I don't think those priorities are correct. Surely it's better to have 6000 people participating than watching an intercollegiate game. After all, physical fitness is what it's all about."

Wick replied that the intramural program was not being downgraded, but in fact its budget has increased relative to intercollegiate sports. Talbot was

incredulous, "You mean it used to be worse?" Wick answered, "Yes, but you must remember that you can't deal away your intercollegiate program or the intramurals would collapse. Also, a lot of students benefit by being able to watch the intercollegiate games free of charge."

Education rep Blythe Nuttal felt it was the responsibility of the physical education faculty to look after intercollegiate activities. Wick said that that was ridiculous. "Not only physical education students benefit; the activities benefit students from all faculties. Only a minority of participants are phys ed students."

Charlie Hall said, "I feel the situation between the UAB and the faculty has gotten out of hand with cross favours. I think we need to have this more carefully delineated. The UAB and the faculty should sit down and decide who's paying for which functions."

Wick replied, "If we want to continue the recreation and athletic program on the same scale, we're going to have to foot the bill."

Some councillors were cont'd pg. 8

Cooper appointed speaker

by Gary Draper

Arts student Rick Cooper has been appointed Students' Council Speaker for 1974-75. The motion, requiring a 2/3 majority, squeaked through Monday night's meeting with 8 in favour, 4 against, and 2 abstentions.

It came following a heated debate in which Science rep Jim Talbot charged that irregularities had taken place at the Administration board meeting choosing the nominee.

Talbot stated that a number of members present at that meeting were unhappy with the procedure adopted. They felt that it was conducted frivolously and described it as a circus.

Administration Board chairman and vp finance Charlie Hall took issue with Talbot's remarks saying that the meeting was conducted fairly and all applicants given an equal chance. Those present at the meeting were divided in their remarks, some supporting Talbot and others favouring Hall's version.

Talbot's motion to refer the selection back to admin board for reconsideration was narrowly defeated, 6 in favour to 7 opposed.

In other business, the Canadian Committee for Justice to Latin American Political Prisoners requested a grant of \$250 to assist in bringing Harold Edlestam, Swedish ambassador to Chile at the time of the military overthrow of the Allende government, to speak on campus. Council refused to grant the money, many councillors noting that the grant fund was already overspent, but they endorsed the visit and made Dinwoodie available for the speech free of charge.

Overwhelming YES for plebiscite

Edmontonians have overwhelmingly approved a plebiscite authorizing the city to borrow \$11.6 million by debenture to finance the facilities required for staging the 1978 Commonwealth Games.

With 306 out of 306 polls reporting, 93,116 yes votes have been cast, translating to roughly 76.0%. The majority is insurmountable and the unexpectedly heavy voter turnout indicated that when the majority were needed most, they came through.

This can be considered something of a personal victory for Mayor Ivor Dent, who had staked his job on the outcome of this plebiscite authorising the most ambitious project yet undertaken by the city, which will provide badly needed athletic facilities.

Alarming actions

A false alarm emptied SUB at 8:10 p.m. Wednesday night, sending hundreds out of the building.

It interrupted a battle sequence in student cinema's showing of "Young Winston" while RATT patrons walked down seven flights of stairs.

A fire alarm pulled near the executive offices caused the evacuation, which saw speedy actions from fire engines and the local police.

GFC gives OK on tutorials

by Brian Tucker

The idea of providing tutorial assistance in courses with a large enrolment was approved in principle by general faculties council Monday.

The proposal for a university-wide tutorial program, which would cost about \$110,000, was contained in the massive report of the GFC committee on student stress that presented its recommendations at a special meeting.

It was sent to various University faculties and departments for further comment.

GFC felt that the proposal would give students more personal contact with their instructors in a large class of more than 200 students.

Don Ross, dean of science, said tutorials have been tried in the chemistry department to

give students information outside the classroom. It should be expanded, possibly through the use of audio visual aids, as "we are lagging behind in this."

Some members pointed out that cost was an important factor in implementing such a system, particularly in faculties with small staffs.

A recommendation urging a review of the possibility of withdrawing from a class at any time prior to the final exam was also approved.

Under current regulations a student can withdraw in March and receive a partial rebate on his fees. He can do so without any mark appearing on his record.

J.R. McGregor, dean of graduate studies and research, said that removing the deadline would be unfair to the student who presses on to the end of a

course and takes a failing mark on his record.

Gary Draper, student representative, maintained that a student who drops a course just before the final exam has invested effort into it.

"If after this time a student can't pass the exam, he should be allowed to do this."

Peter Flynn, graduate student representative, said the proposal might encourage students to take difficult courses.

Among the other recommendations approved in principle were:

- The continuation of special facilities for overseas students.

- That more students be hired for part-time work in the administrative offices to help with student problems.

- That the Students' Union cont'd pg. 8