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Bennett launches verbal attack on Downey

By KEN QUIGLEY
Editor

Near midway through the SRC weekly meeting on Monday, February 17, VP Academic Micheal Bennett launched a verbal attack against University president Dr. James Downey and his alleged involvement in student affairs.

This uncharacteristic display of intensity from Bennett, heard live over CHSR-FM, was in response to a conversation Downey had with VP Administration, Al MacDonald.

According to Bennett and MacDonald, Downey stated that "the SRC did not represent the majority of the students on campus and were mismanaging the students money."

In response to these charges Downey clarified that he said the SRC "didn't represent very well the interests of the students." But added that "in fairness we have to wait to see what they will do."

Bennett went on to state that Downey told MacDonald the Winter Carnival was a waste of money.

"Was not organized and was a last minute effort to pull it off" replied Downey. The president then went on to ask "does the Carnival meet the interests of the students?" He recognizes that its "hard to break tradition but should we be doing this anymore. Obviously people given the responsibility (Winter Carnival committee that resigned in opposition to SRC intervention) should be given support to do the job."

During Bennetts tirade he claimed that student rights are going down and later describ-



President, James Downey

ed Downey's actions like that of an "Amoeba trying to engulf a piece of food." The "food" was identified as first the SUB Board, then the late CSL store, the students voice in selecting members for Search Committees, Orientation (Administration told Orientation that they were their boss), and the Campus Police who he allegedly claimed, last year in the Brunswickan, that he wanted to take over.

"Downey's undermining the Student Union" ended Bennett.

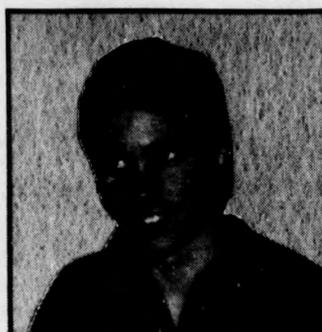
"I think the challenges of running a university with an operating budget of \$75-80,000 keeps me busy enough" replied Downey, then goes on to say that he has little interest in taking over the SUB, but can't rightly ignore complaints that he reports are coming from alumni in reference to what they figure is the SUB's impending collapse.

In an effort to clarify his amoeba like diet Downey states that the Board of Govenors owned the SUB and thus had the right to delegate the SUB Board. This board had its authority disbanded and was replaced by an SRC formed board. When the old board was reinstated, the UNB SRC refused to recognize it, since it was pushed through by the Administration and gave equal representation between STU and UNB.

Downey defends that these actions were initiated because "the SRC Board was not doing the job. The place was a mess and badly managed. They were incapable of making decisions."

His CSL intervention, that eventually led to the stores demise, was an action he claims he had to take, in light of the stores conflict with other existing contracts.

In regards to Downey "engulfing" the students voice in appointments to the Search Committees he declares that "not much of an issue." On



VP Academic, Mike Bennett

February 11, Downey chaired the Senate meeting and on that specific motion he did not vote.

He claims he does not know

what Bennett is talking about in reference to charges that he or his administration told Orientation that he was their boss. In fact the president states that his role in that whole affair was strictly "traditional".

Downey concluded by stamping out the allegations that he wanted to take over the Campus Police. The CP's however did come to him, he claims, raising the idea themselves of being taken over by the university. The president stated he "expressed interest, but no commitment."

Damage at SUB

By ROBIN GENEAU
News Editor

A window in the front door of the SUB was damaged last Saturday night. According to Kim Norris, SUB Director, it was obvious from the point of impact that the damage was deliberate.

The incident occurred on the same night that Caribbean Nite and an alternative music dance were going on.

The punk dance was open to the public and Norris thinks that the perpetrator was probably a high school student attending the dance. According to Norris, there were other problems with those attending the dance.

Jeff Beardall, Personnel Director of CHSR, who attended the dance, feels that it went smoothly. He said that it was very successful, having the highest turnout of any dry event. He said that rumor that the city police were called concerning the dance is untrue.

John Bosnitch, President of the SRC, agreed beforehand that if any damages resulted from the dance, which was

organized by the Services Commission, and the Eastern Edge Production Company, the SRC would be responsible. Both Bosnitch and Beardall said that the damage was not done by a "punker". Bosnitch claims to have evidence that the person responsible for the broken window was a patron of the Social Club. In that case, the SRC will not be responsible to pay for the damage.

The cost of repairing the window will not be known to

Norris for approximately a month. He estimates it at \$90-\$200.

Norris said that the dance was an experiment. The matter will be brought up in front of the SUB Board. According to Norris, it is possible that there will be no more alternative music events held at the SUB.

Richard Bird, a student and musician, said, "to blame the damage on the 'punk rock music' is to show prejudice and narrowmindedness."

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