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Weekend Weather

It will be delightfully sunny on Friday, with light winds and highs near -7. On Saturday, expect temperatures ranging from -12 to 1 during the day. On Sunday, there is a chance of flurries, with temperatures between -11 to -2.

Brunsbites

Sappy Valentine's facts:

On an average Valentine's day...

• 5 million roses are sold

• 60 million Valentines are sent

On an average day...

• Canadians buy 219,178 roses, the favorite color being red

• 26,575 Harlequin Romance novels are purchased

• Canadians eat 274,888 kilograms of chocolate, about 4,840,000 regular-size chocolate bars

-from *Which do you prefer: Chunky or Smooth?*

What Canadians Eat, Watch, Read, Buy and Do... On An Average Day, by Heather Brazier, 1992, HarperCollins Publishers.

Interest free period jeopardized

by Erin Campbell

CFS representatives are "upset and disgusted" with the federal government's plan to collect interest on student loans immediately upon a student's graduation.

Presently the federal government holds back interest on student loans for six months. Due to ongoing economic concerns, it has been decided to eliminate this waiting period.

New Brunswick's National Executive Representative to the Canadian Federation for Students, Tammy Yates, says that originally the government planned to lift the three percent tax on the loans as well, apparently the government decided to keep the tax in place.

The new policy regarding the loans is not the only concern for the CFS. Yates also questions the way the legislation was reviewed in the House of Commons.

Although it is customary to

hold public hearings on proposed legislation, the committee reviewing the bill decided not to hold them on the issue of the loan interest. According to Yates, the Liberal and NDP committee members protested by leaving the meeting.

The legislation was able to pass its review as the Conservative members were able to form a suitable quorum for the decision.

The handling of the issue has prompted Student Union executives to criticize the federal government's commitment to university students. Yates believes that the government's actions are against "Canadian ideology".

She says that the government is supposed to be "responsible for the people" and is supposed "to talk to the people". James van Raalte, who also attended the last CFS meeting, says that the government's policy will "hurt students" and shows how it

"doesn't care about anybody".

Yates states that little can be done as the government controls majority in the House of

Commons. She adds that the CFS will continue to lobby Parliament in hopes of showing it "the error of [its] ways".



Brrrrr - Mayor Brad Woodside braved the frigid waters of the St. John River on Saturday. Woodside was among the 70 participants in this year's Bridges House Polar Dip. The Dip raised about 4500 lbs of food for the Fredericton Food Bank. Kevin G. Porter photo.

Adopt-A-Book

by Mark Minor

This year's graduating class project, Adopt-A-Book, is already in full swing. According to Class President Mary Dable, \$1250 has been raised so far. The goal has been set at between \$8000 to \$10,000.

Libraries Director John Teskey, in a submission to the Class of '93 Executive, explained why this year's project is so important: "With all the publicity that electronic products have received, one would think that printed books had been pushed aside. The truth is that printed books are still the predominant publishing medium."

"Books are expensive, and there are several reasons why they become relatively more expensive each year. One reason is that the inflation rate for books is usually higher than the Consumer Price Index. For academic books it has been in the 4-5% range for several years, but it increased to 12.5% for 1991/92. Since only 17% of the books the Library buys are published in Canada, the value of the dollar is another factor. Costs are affected by the value of both the Canadian and US dollars, and both are weak this year. The Library's acquisitions budget has increased only once in the last five years, and the GST absorbed most of that increase. Even with cancellations, journal subscriptions consume a large part of the budget. All of these things combined results in fewer books being purchased."

Teskey illustrated his points.

The numbers of books purchased in the academic year 1989/90 was 12,656. In 1990/91 the number was reduced to 10,430 and in 1991/92 there were 7,594 purchases. To give one an idea of the cost of books, Teskey listed the average cost according to faculty: Administration - \$51, Arts - \$46, Computer Science - \$61, Education - \$49, Engineering - \$88, Forestry - \$87, Law - \$71, Nursing - \$54, Physical Education - \$44 and Science - \$93.

Dable told the Bruns that the UNB Library System will supplement each donation to purchase a book for the faculty of the donor's choice.

Dable explained how donors will be recognized for their contributions: "Your name will appear on a book plate that will be placed inside the front cover of the book you adopt, and your name will also be engraved in a special Class of 1993 crest that will be located just outside the Harriet Irving Library."

"The crest will officially be unveiled at some point during grad week activities. All donations will go directly toward the purchase of a book. The book plates will be donated by the Library System and the crest will be sponsored."

She said that "custom made 5'x4' marble crest can hold up to 300 names and can be altered to accommodate additional names if necessary. Names will be engraved as follows: given name, middle initial, surname and faculty abbreviation...for

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SU societies budget

by Karen Burgess

The Student Union Clubs and Societies Budget went through its first reading at the council meeting Wednesday night.

Of the groups completing submissions and presentations to the UNBSU Finance Committee, few had their budgets cut, and most remained the same or gained small increases. The most significant cuts were to the Arts Undergraduate Society, and the Business Society.

SU VP Finance James van Raalte explains that while the AUS budget is to be lowered, the budgets of departments clubs within the Arts faculty have for the most part remained the same. Van Raalte feels that in the Arts faculty, students tend to be members of the club or society representing their individual department, History or English for example, instead of joining the AUS.

Within the Arts faculty, the French Club's budget will almost

double, and the Psychology Students Association will increase to \$1575 from \$925.

Van Raalte says that the proposed decrease in the Business Society's budget reflects a lack of student participation in the group.

This year, SU clubs and societies were asked to prepare proposals on the grounds of a base budget, the absolute lowest amount on which the group feels it can function. Groups are also asked to submit budget proposals at 5%, 10%, and 20% cuts.

Van Raalte explains that this allows the SU to see what the priorities of the clubs are so that cuts will not be made on the basis of total dollar amounts alone.

The Vice President sees one of the budget's highlights as being the increased contribution to cultural groups such as the Caribbean Circle and the Overseas Chinese Students

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