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St Thomas Student Union VP pleads guilty \$12,700 of S.U. funds misappropriated

by Karen Burgess

On Tuesday, August 27, Robb Hartlen, the former Vice President of administration for Saint Thomas University's Student Union, pleaded guilty to a charge of theft of an amount over \$1,000.

Hartlen was charged in July when a police investigation concluded that he was responsible for the misappropriation of \$12,700 of Student Union funds.

Apparently, when the financial irregularities were discovered, the Student Union held an in camera meeting to discuss the problem, and later that day received a hand written letter from Hartlen in which he announced his resignation from the Union's executive. An official police investigation into

the matter was begun after this meeting on August 22, and it was originally thought that other individuals might possibly be charged in connection with the theft.

According to Jeff London, acting Vice President of administration, Saint Thomas University was undergoing a staff change over within the Student Union at the time the funds were misappropriated. As a result of the changeover in the Student Union, the safeguards which normally prevent such theft problems were not in place.

Hartlen's guilty plea was made to Judge Judy Clendenning in a New Brunswick Provincial Court. He is scheduled to reappear in court October 2 for sentencing, and has been ordered to see a probation officer until that date.



Michael David Smith photo

UNB considers proposal for on-campus pub

by Karen Burgess

Eric Garland, UNB's associate Vice President of administration, is presently considering a status report compiled by Bar Services manager Ric Cuthbertson, concerning the possible opening of a pub on campus.

"The idea (for the pub) has been in the concept stage for some time," said Cuthbertson, who wrote the report at the request of Rochus Brostowski, a director of Housing and Food Service on campus. He continued by saying that the proposal had previously been made four years ago, but lacked support from the students who he now feels are more open to the idea.

If the status report meets with favorable response from

the administration, further studies would have to be done with regards to fund raising and liquor licensing, and the idea would eventually have to get the approval of the student body to establish its viability as a business venture.

The proposal calls for an old, unused building in the forestry complex to undergo an estimated \$500,000 in renovations. The two storey establishment would hold a pub on the ground floor, and a banquet room in which residences and organizations could hold private functions, on the second floor.

Cuthbertson says that if the plan to build the pub were implemented, Bar Services would likely continue to function as it does now, serving the approximately 125 licensed areas on campus.

Pub?

Building #2 of UNB's Forestry complex is one possible location for the proposed on-campus pub.

UNB's Health Plan revised

by Pat FitzPatrick

With the beginning of the fall term, the issue of health insurance for students and faculty alike is once again in contention.

In a referendum last year, students were asked whether they were willing to pay an additional thirty five dollars in order to have oral contraceptives covered on their plan. Previously, prescriptions for oral contraceptives had not been covered, resulting in a cost of twenty to twenty three dollars every month. The results of the referendum proved to be inconclusive, with the resolution being approved by a very slim majority.

Since the referendum, the University Administration made the decision to change coverage from the Mutual Life company (through Shared Health Network) to Blue Cross.

According to Mr. Doug

Crockett of the Personnel and Benefits office, the change to Blue Cross was primarily because of the local "Quick-Pay" system for submitting all student claims, as well as claims for vision care and other items for staff and students.

With Mutual Life, it was necessary to submit all claims for vision care and home-health care items to the Mutual office in Halifax. Another contributing factor was the number of administrative difficulties encountered with Shared Health / Mutual.

As a result of the change, the price of covering oral contraceptives increased "...far beyond (Mutual's) thirty five dollars extra", said SU President Greg Lutes. It was thus decided that the oral contraceptives not be covered.

Under the Blue Cross "Quick Pay" system, students pay for their prescriptions and submit their claim to and receipt at the

Blue Cross office on Priestman Street. At this time they will receive a cheque reimbursing them for 80% of the cost of the drugs.

Although the new drug plan has many benefits for the student, particularly in the form of the "Quick-Pay" system, area pharmacies report some complaints from faculty and staff members with regards to their plan.

Firstly, the issue of interchangeable drugs is one which some people would rather avoid. The point in contention is that certain pharmaceutical manufacturers make a cheaper brand of some drugs; thus, if the doctor marks a prescription as "substitution permitted", then the pharmacy has been requested by Blue Cross to fill the prescription using the cheaper brand of the drug.

It should be stressed however, that the so-called

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Date rape awareness campaign.
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