

CKDU's funding temporarily frozen

Tufts' secret account prompts action

by Samantha Brennan

Funding for Dalhousie's student radio station CKDU was temporarily frozen by council over alleged "irregular and improper banking practices."

Council voted unanimously April 1 to ratify a decision of the executive to freeze the station's funding after station manager Keith Tufts refused to turn over an unofficial account held by the radio station. Council also threatened that any additional unauthorized expenditures would come out of Tuft's honoraria.

Ending several months of battle, Tufts handed over the account to the student union April 3, prompting council to reinstate funding.

CKDU's funding is normally administered through a board of directors and comes out of the student union accounts.

Tufts set up a separate account without the permission or knowledge of the board and deposited profits from D.J. service Excalibur Sound and special events into this account. Excalibur Sound is owned by the student union and lent to CKDU for fundraising.

Shawn Houlihan, Student Union Treasurer says he had been asking Tufts to turn over the account for months.

In a letter responding to the council's action, Tufts calls Houlihan's accusations "unprovoked, unwarranted and a case of over-reaction." Tufts also says the whole dispute stems from a personality conflict between himself and Houlihan.

DSU president Tim Hill disagrees with Tufts' interpretation of the problem. He says Tufts is testing the bounds of council and ignoring all channels of procedure.

"As far as I'm concerned council has a responsibility to be financially responsible. We're drawing a line," said Hill.

He says that Tufts is blaming Houlihan for a decision made unanimously by the executive and council.

Hill also says this problem was one of a series of disputes leading up to council voting to freeze funding.

V.P. External Atul Sharma is concerned that CKDU is bringing bands into the SUB that are blacklisted by the musicians union.

"If the union in turn goes and blacklists the student union, there goes the DSU's plans for entertainment next year," says Sharma.

CKDU had plans to bring the Vancouver band D.O.A. to the SUB but the event is being moved because they are not a union band.

Sharma says that Tufts has a history of by-passing the correct procedures to get things done. This fall he ordered phones from the physical plant without the board's approval, says Sharma.

He's not satisfied that problems in dealing with Tufts have been resolved with the turning over of the account. "Tufts has got to go," says Sharma. "He's just got to go."

Vice-president Susan McIntyre also has had problems dealing with Tufts in the organization of CKDU events in the SUB.

She says that on one occasion Tufts only asked permission to have a room until 11:30 p.m. but posters advertising the event said 1:00 p.m. McIntyre says these events aren't even attracting Dal students. She says the crowds are mostly made up of high school students and that creates problems with selling alcohol, and raises the question of who the SUB is for.

Tufts says that all these problems stem from council's "lack of respect for CKDU."

Sharma says this year's executive put so much work into preparing the station for FM, Tufts comments are absurd.

"To characterize any member of our council as being anti-CKDU is just so unwarranted it doesn't even deserve passing mention," says Sharma.

Hill says problems with Tufts will not effect plans for CKDU to make the transition to FM in the coming year. A station manager will be selected by a search committee before the end of Hill's term as president and will assume the position on May 1. Houlihan sits on the search committee and Tufts is among the candidates.



Keith Tufts, CKDU station manager, turned over secret account April 3 after council voted to freeze funding.

Three thousand new jobs too short for students

by Susan Fullerton

Student leaders are giving mixed reviews to the provincial government's recent announcement of an additional \$5 million slated for student job creation.

Judith Guthrie, executive officer of the Students' Union of Nova Scotia, says although SUNS is gratified that student employment is a priority for the government, they do have a

problem with the length of the newly created jobs.

The \$5 million is supposed to create 3000 jobs for students lasting 13 weeks.

Guthrie says the jobs are too short for students to save the minimum necessary for their Nova Scotia bursaries.

The original \$7 million the government had allocated for job creation would have created

an initial 3000 jobs for 17 week periods.

"It was very hard to manage with a 17 week job, but with a 13 week job it's impossible," says Guthrie.

This is an inherent contradiction between the departments of development and education, which set the bursary requirements, says Guthrie.

SUNS is meeting with education minister Terry Donahoe on April 9 to discuss this and other issues.

"I think that the lobby day had a great deal to do with the decision," says Guthrie, "however it is naive to think that the cabinet can approve a proposal within two days."

The government has been aware that SUNS was "up to something" and knew they were in for another battle from us, says Guthrie.

Provincial NDP leader Alexa McDonough agrees.

Although pleased with the announcement, she is a little suspicious about the government's motives.

"I couldn't help but think that (Roland) Thornhill's (minister of development) announcement was carefully timed to give the appearance of direct response to the SUNS lobby efforts," says McDonough.

Thornhill was not available for comment.

Law student learns real-life lesson-sues Dal law school

by Brian Cox

Despite her early retreat from Dalhousie law school Andrea MacBeth still learned some lessons of the trade. MacBeth is suing the law school for \$100,000 for alleged breach of contract.

MacBeth plans to put her knowledge from first year law to use by handling her own case.

She says the law school did not live up to its contractual obligations as outlined in the school's calendar. The dispute concerns MacBeth writing a supplemental exam for a failed course and the school's refusal to accept a medi-

cal certificate as proof of illness during her exams in December 1979.

This court action comes after years of battle between MacBeth and the law school concerning academic appeals. She says the law school should pay her compensation for damages and as protection against bias should she return to law school.

Her case rests on a clause in the calendar that says the school had an obligation to settle her appeal in one year.

"What I was claiming was precisely what was written in the

calendar," said MacBeth. She says the five years of dispute have financially disabled her and she wants financial compensation.

Dalhousie university is represented by Reg Cluney of McInnis, Cooper and Robertson.

Cluney says that although the calendar is a contract this does not mean Dalhousie must necessarily pay damages to MacBeth.

"The onus is on MacBeth to prove she deserves damages," said Cluney.

MacBeth's case will be heard before the Nova Scotia supreme court in September.