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Funtronix takes over Games

House of Coin, the previous operator of the SUB Games Room, opted to sell-out rather than experiment with new machines.

The company had run the SU amusement area since 1969. SU Business Manager Tom Wright was concerned that the House of Coin performance, a disappointing \$55,000 a year in commissions to the SU over the past two years, would not get any better.

Wright convinced Wes Van Dusan of House of Coin to consider a buy-out by SU. Van Dusan agreed to release the SU from a contract that would otherwise have seen the company operating in SUB until March 31, 1987. After negotiations, the House of Coin decided to give up the Games Room for \$50,000.

On July 19, 1983, Funtronix signed an agreement with the SU, in which the new firm paid \$37,500 to run the amusement center. This essentially decreased the cost of the SU buy-out to \$12,500.

But it already appears the changeover will pay for itself much sooner than expected. Compared to last year, Funtronix has almost tripled gross revenues. The new operator brought in an average of \$1000 a day gross from September 6 - 13 whereas House of Coin grossed an average of \$345 from September 3 - 17.

"Our biggest problem was that the contract was automatically renewed every five years," said Wright, explaining the difficulties of getting out of the long-term contract with House of Coin.

Wright says Van Dusan refused to bring in new machines or better machines. "The situation was that these people (House of Coin) weren't aggressive enough to get in games, both in number and variety. They weren't providing an outlet that people would want to come to," he said. John Hopps, co-owner of Funtronix, hopes to change that scenario. "It'll take a year to get the bugs out, that is, to get the right games in."

Hopps predicts Funtronix will make about \$200,000 gross in its first year at the University of Alberta. Thus, based on the 50-50 split that's in their contract, the SU is projecting \$100,000 commissions from the Games Room, almost double last year's figures.

Hopps wants to introduce as many of the new games to U of A students as he can, while keeping most machines at 25 cents.

"We'll retain that price on 90 per cent of the machines this year," said Wright, referring to games like Pac-Man and Donkey Kong Junior.

Does Hopps think that's the right strategy? Obviously, he does. Games were free yesterday. Hopps says he'll draw people into the SUB basement with games at 25 cents.

"I started in this business while I was an electronics instructor at SAIT. I gradually moved into games," said Hopps.

Nova Scotia dissatisfied

from page 3

members. Almost all agree that CFS-Services is inadequate.

Last year SUNS members voted to call on CFS-Services to change its priorities from non-essential services to services oriented toward student need, such as a national health insurance scheme. They say this call has been repeated with little tangible effect.

Tim Hill, student union president at Dalhousie, wants a pull-out referendum early this fall, but the matter has not yet been decided by student council.

"There's a sense of mistrust between Nova Scotia and the National Office," says CFS chair Graham Dowdell. "We've got an incredible amount of work to do down there."

Dowdell plans on visiting the province later this month.

Last February St. Mary's University voted by a margin of two to one to pull out of CFS. St. Mary's was also the first campus to join CFS, in 1981.

Mike MacLean, president of the Mount St. Vincent University student union, said he will look for "a direct show of faith" from CFS this fall before making any decision on the organization's future on his campus.

UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA LIBRARY HOURS

Winter Session 1983/84

Effective September 12, 1983

	MONDAY-THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
CAMERON LIBRARY				
Building Open	0745 - 2400	0745 - 2100	1000 - 1700	1200 - 2400
Circulation Services	0745 - 2200	0745 - 1745	1000 - 1645	1200-1945
Fines Collection	0830 - 1630	0830 - 1630	CLOSED	CLOSED
Interlibrary Loans	0830 - 1630	0830 - 1630	CLOSED	CLOSED
Photoduplication	0830 - 1630	0830 - 1630	CLOSED	CLOSED
Reserve Reading Room	0745 - 1945	0745 - 1645	1000 - 1645	1200 - 1645
Reference Services				
Government Publications	0830 - 2130	0830 - 1700	1000 - 1700	CLOSED
Health Sciences Library	0830 - 2130	0830 - 1800	1000 - 1700	1200 - 1600
Science Library	0830 - 2130	0830 - 1800	1000 - 1700	1200 - 1700
Special Collections	0830 - 1630	0830 - 1630	CLOSED	CLOSED
Undergraduate Library	0830 - 2100	0830 - 1700	1300 - 1700	1300 - 1700
HERBERT T. COUTTS (EDUCATION) LIBRARY				
Building Open	0745 - 2200	0745 - 1800	1000 - 1700	1000 - 1800
Curriculum Library Open	0745 - 2145	0745 - 1730	1000 - 1630	1000 - 1730
Circulation Services	0745 - 2130	0745 - 1745	1000 - 1645	1000 - 1745
Reserve Room	0745 - 2130	0745 - 1730	1300 - 1645	CLOSED
Reference Services				
Education	0800 - 2130	0800 - 1700	1200 - 1630	1200 - 1730
Curriculum	0800 - 2130	0800 - 1700	1100 - 1630	1100 - 1730
LAW LIBRARY	0745 - 2400	0745 - 2200	0830 - 1700	1200 - 2400
MATHEMATICS BRANCH LIBRARY	0900 - 1200 1300 - 1700	0900 - 1200 1300 - 1700	CLOSED	CLOSED
PHYSICAL SCIENCES BRANCH LIBRARY	0830 - 1630	0830 - 1630	CLOSED	CLOSED
COMPUTING SCIENCES READING ROOM	0900 - 1200 1300 - 2100	0900 - 1200 1300 - 1700	1200 - 1700	1200 - 1700
RUTHERFORD LIBRARIES				
Galleria Open	0700 - 0200	0700 - 2400	0700 - 2400	0900 - 0200
RUTHERFORD SOUTH STUDY HALL	0700 - 0200	0700 - 2400	0700 - 2400	0900 - 0200
RUTHERFORD NORTH (HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES LIBRARY)				
Library Open	0745 - 2400	0745 - 2100	1000 - 2100	1000 - 2400
Circulation Services	0734 - 2200	0745 - 1745	1000 - 1945	1000 - 1945
Reference Services	0830 - 2130	0830 - 1800	1000 - 1700	1000 - 1700
RUTHERFORD SOUTH (PERIODICALS AND MICROFORMS CENTRE)				
Centre Open	0745 - 2400	0745 - 2100	1000 - 2100	1000 - 2400
Circulation Services	0745 - 2345	0745 - 2045	1000 - 2045	1000 - 2345
Micromaterials Room	0745 - 2045	0745 - 1645	1000 - 1645	CLOSED
Periodicals Reading Room	0745 - 2400	0745 - 2100	1000 - 2100	1000 - 2400
JOHN W. SCOTT BRANCH LIBRARY	0900 - 2200	0900 - 2200	0900 - 1700	1300 - 1700

SU Games Area

SUB Basement
9 AM - 10 PM

- Bowling • Billiards • Pinball •

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A Students' Union Service

EXTERNAL COMMISSIONER



Required

Duties:

— Assist the Vice-President (External) in the investigation of problems relating to:

a) the funding of the University, and its effects on students

b) the accessibility of University education; particularly, the effects of tuition fees, student aid, and differential fees

— Assist the Vice-President (External) in organizing and implementing programmes designed to deal with these problems.

Term of Office:

Immediately to 30 April 1984

Remuneration:

\$300 per month

For Information and/or Applications, contact
Students' Union Executive Offices

Room 259, SUB
Phone 432-4236

Deadline for Applications:

4:00 p.m., Monday, 19 September 1983