

The P C party will soon choose new leader

By BURT FOLKINS

The long awaited leadership convention for the federal progressive conservative party is now heading into the home stretch, with much controversy over the quality of the candidates.

Bill Cockburn, president of the Conservative club on this campus said he does not yet know who he will be supporting when he heads to Ottawa for the conference.

The combined university Tory clubs of UNB and STU will send twelve delegates to the conference to be held February 19 through 22. Six of these delegates will be eligible to vote for the candidates of their choice and the other six will act as alternates if members of

the chosen six are unable to attend. Delegates will include current president Cockburn, Kevin Dickson, Bill Teed, and ex-president Peter Dobbeltstein.

Cockburn said each delegate will vote as he sees fit and to his knowledge there is no effort to form a block vote.

Several members of the national party have at times expressed a fear that clubs might be formed on university campuses in the endeavour of some candidates to get additional support. However Cockburn assured that this is not the case on this campus or other campuses in New Brunswick which have had clubs previous to the announcement of the leadership conference.

Candidates who Cockburn feels are in the leading positions include John Fraser, British Columbia; Brian Mulroney, Quebec; Sinclair Stevens and Flora MacDonald, both of Ontario; and Claude Wagner, Quebec. He failed to indicate who he felt would be the next national leader of the Tory party.

When asked about the situation surrounding the independent member from Moncton, Leonard Jones, Cockburn said "I do not support Jones and I do not know if there are members here on campus that do." Leonard Jones, in the opinion of Cockburn, does not represent the interest of the conservative party and their ideology.

With regards to whether Jones

will be successful in being admitted as a candidate for the party Cockburn said "his federal riding first must declare him a conservative". This has in effect already been accomplished as a new executive has been elected in the riding. Cockburn said Jones will probably become a candidate and be declared so by the national executive of the party before the end of January.

There has still been no word from the National committee, which is presently reviewing the situation in Moncton, as to whether they should declare the present executive in that riding legal. If it is declared legal Jones could well become a conservative as his riding has already accepted him as such.

Cockburn pointed out that Jones has had very little success in electing his supporters as delegates to the leadership conference in this area. He has however had delegates elected in the Fundy Royal riding which will be going to the conference. There are six delegates who will attend from

each of the 264 federal ridings who will be eligible to vote and 95 members of parliament and 100 ex-officials. Also included are three delegates from all university PC clubs throughout the country which are recognized by the party.

Cockburn did not comment on the proposed demonstration to be held by university students in this province. However he did not agree with all of the short-term demands that the AFS will present to the government. He said that he questioned why there should be a lower student contribution from summer earnings and was skeptical about whether two students on the government policy board for student aid would be helpful.

He did agree that there should be a review of how assessments are made regarding individual students. There should be a 25 per cent increase in the living allowance for students that should keep pace with inflation, he said.

Cockburn would not comment on what the government reaction would be regarding student demonstration over student aid.

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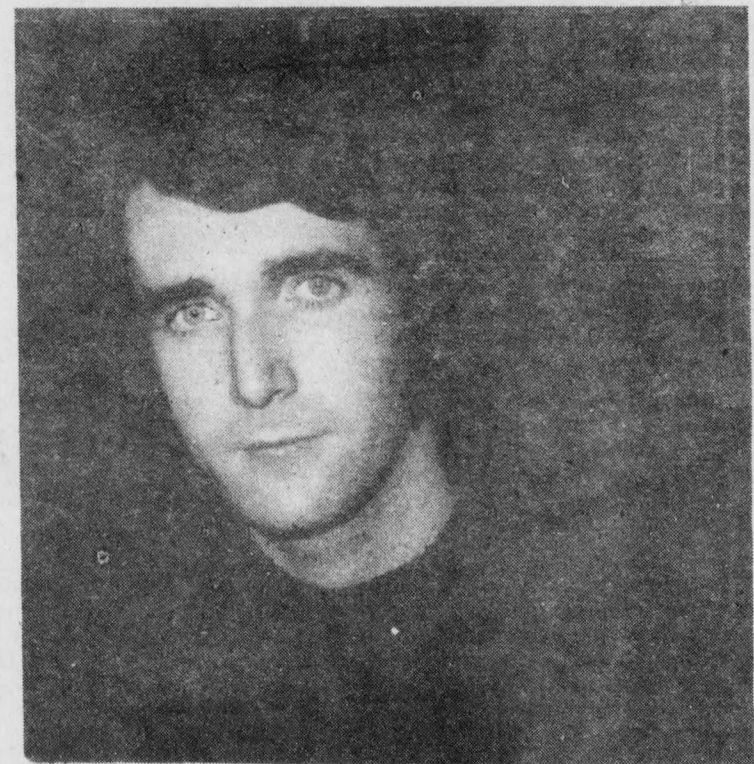
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Thursday, January 22, 1976

11:30 - 1:30



SRC meetings are giving 'bad vibes'



Gordon Kennedy, SRC vice president

By DERWIN GOWAN
News Editor

"I really get bad vibes from this council," said student union vice president at last Monday's Student Representative Council Meeting.

He was referring to the misgivings some councillors expressed with the proposed student strike by the Atlantic Federation of Students.

He said out of province students should be allowed to vote in the upcoming referendum as they were allowed to vote in the provincial election which put the present "sapsucking government" in power. Further, he said the present student aid system benefited only the middle and upper classes.

However, two councillors were whispering in the back and Kennedy, stopping in mid-sentence said "Fuck it," got up, and left the room.

He came back a few minutes later, but before he left councillor Theresa Bone also got mad and yelled back, "Go if you want," and "Nobody wants to listen to your

bullshit anyway." The vice president then left.

Later councillor Eric Semple charged; "The whole thing is completely irresponsible and uncalled for." He said this has been a pattern with Kennedy and accused him of making comments and "one liners" during other people's presentations. He noted that Kennedy refused to apologise to council for his outburst when asked.

"It's outbursts like this that slow down the business of council, especially when council sits for two hours taking care of business which should only take 40 minutes. Council has a bad habit of when discussing an issue to deal with too much trivia and shows a lack of common sense."

Semple also charged council with showing "disrespect for the position of chairman." Said Semple, we've got to back him up some how." He suggested the possibility of ejecting councillors from meetings after they have been called out of order twice.

Semple said the agenda made up by president Jim Smith does little to streamline council business.



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