

Student Paralyzed During Fresh Activities

Toronto (CP) - McMaster University is being sued after an 18-year-old student was paralyzed from the chest down during a frosh week initiation rite.

Mark Woitzik's family are suing the university and 10 people, including the school's president and head of the student union, alleging negligence. The first-year student was injured when he leapt into a mud puddle on Sept. 6 during orientation week activities. The family wants \$11 million. The suit says he is irreversibly quadriplegic.

Two Male Students Found Guilty of Harassment

Toronto (CP) - Two of nine male students charged with sexual harassment have been found guilty of violating Queen's University's conduct code after signs were posted mocking an anti-rape campaign.

But some female students are upset the other seven were cleared. The women will appeal the decision. "The harassment board has failed to address the effect that these signs had on . . . the women's community across Canada," said Liza Zawadzke, one of the women who complained. The signs posted in the windows of one of the residences said No Means More Beer, No Means Kick Her In The Teeth and No Means On Your Knees. The men were charged under the conduct code after 40 masked women occupied the principal's office for 29 hours.

The guilty students were told to write a letter of apology to the women and learn about violence against women.

Medical Student Stabbed

Toronto (CP) - A University of Toronto Medical student stabbed on campus last year is under police guard following threats believed to have come from her suspected assailant.

Police says the threat against the 22-year-old resident of Brampton and her family was outlined in a two-page handwritten letter. The woman was stabbed five times Dec. 5, after being lured from a class by a note. The woman's rejected boyfriend, Peter Mann, is being sought on a Canada-wide warrant on an attempted murder charge.

Grade 7 Student Attacked

Toronto (CP) - A Grade 7 student who had her nose broken when she was punched in the face by a male classmate didn't report the attack because she was too afraid.

But officials with the Scarborough Board of Education are hopeful a series of conferences on personal safety aimed at female students will help alleviate those and other fears. "A lot of girls don't want their parents to know what is going on, so they don't complain when they're assaulted," said Toronto police Sgt. Diane MacInnis. It was only when a group of boys threatened to sexually assault the girl that she spoke up, MacInnis said. The issues of violence on campus and in schools have come under judicial scrutiny with the sensational trail on a one-time Queen's University engineering student charged with sexually assaulting three female acquaintances.

Tenured Professor Fired

Hamilton (CP) - Complaints of sexual harassment from several staff members and students has led to a McMaster University professor's firing. The university refused to name the professor, specify his faculty or give details. A university tribunal took a year to investigate and recommended in November the tenured professor be fired. The school's senate and board of governors accepted the recommendation Jan. 22. The professor's behavior created a "hostile, offensive and intimidating work environment", and demonstrated "unethical academic behavior", the tribunal concluded.

Discrimination against Girls is Rife

New York (Reuters) - School girls face discrimination from teachers, textbooks, tests and their male classmates, according to a study reported in the New York Times. The study, commissioned by the American Association of University Women Educational Foundation also said reports of sexual harassment of girls by their male classmates are increasing.

Womyn Students to Publish Book

Vancouver - The Langara Students' Union is compiling a library of stories written by womyn on the issue of male violence. Their goal is to publish a book which clearly defines the problem of male violence; a book which allows womyn from all walks of life to share their experiences. Send submissions to: Kristen Clarkson or Lily Petrovic, 100 West 49th Ave. Vancouver, B.C. V5Y 2Z6

Insensitive, Inane and Just Plain Ignorant

A chief justice with the P.E.I. Supreme Court says judges should not be forced to take certain educational course. Justice Ken MacDonald says if certain courses on sexism, bias in the courts and aboriginal issues are made mandatory, then the judiciary will be brainwashed to a certain view and it will be the end of the independent judge.

Editor's Note: Yea, like we ever had one to start with.

The lawyer for accused rapist William Kennedy Smith joked about the trial during a speech to the New York State Bar Association's criminal justice section. Roy Black said that "Will" has had no trouble getting dates since the trial because he had to "reluctantly admit that it was true" that he ejaculated twice in 30 minutes with the woman who accused him of brutally raping her.

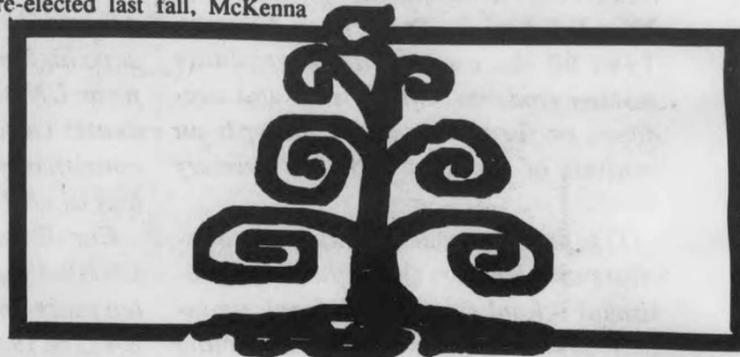
A man whose house was broken into during the Oka crisis is angry that several Mohawks have been found not guilty of vandalizing the homes of three white families. Regean Mongeau says "there seems to be one justice system for whites and another for Mohawks."

Editor's Note: He's got that right . . . but he's got it backwards. Aboriginal prisoners make up a grossly disproportionate percentage of the prison population.

Womyn empowering womyn

ELLEN KING: Deputy Minister of the Women's Directorate. The directorate was established as a separate department in 1988 by the Liberal government, as part of a commitment to women's issues by newly elected Premier Frank McKenna. However, after being re-elected last fall, McKenna

DR. WENDY ROBBINS: Head of the Women's Studies program at the University of New Brunswick. Dr. Robbins is a role-model and inspiration to a large number of female students through her dedication and enthusiasm for women's knowledge.



slashed the directorate's mandate by combining it with the Department of Finance and the Board of Management under Allan Maher, despite resistance by women's groups.

The directorate provides an invaluable service to women in New Brunswick. It acts as a catalyst and facilitator of change with the entire government structure to initiate, develop or change policies, programs and legislation which impact on women.

BARB MARTIN: Head of the New Brunswick Native Women's Council. Barb Martin is currently negotiating with the federal and provincial governments for funding for a 25-bed shelter for abused native women. A legacy of patriarchy and the Residential schools, abuse runs as high as 90 percent on some reserves.

LORI DEJONG: A mother of two who is dedicated to bringing lay midwifery and home births back to New Brunswick women. In mid-January she gave birth to a healthy nine-pound baby girl at home, as planned.

LADIES OF THE DUNN: They recently raised \$3,000 for Fredericton Shelter for battered women with a Dance-A-Thon.

ELMA BROOKS: A native elder. Elma Brooks is making a 10-year-old dream come true. She is establishing a Medicine Lodge - a traditional healing center just outside of Fredericton. A committee is raising money to purchase buildings, equipment and a green house. The 270 acres of land is being given back to the First Nations people by Marion and Bruce Cummings.

Is the UNB Student Union an "Old Boys" club?

by Margie Gregg

The answer to that question is both yes and no. On the 1991-92 Council, two of five executive members are women, and of twenty three elected councilors nine are women. This means that 40% of the executive, and 39% of the councilors are indeed women. This is an extraordinarily high number when you consider that only 13% of Canada's M.P.'s are women, and 17% of N.B. M.L.A.

We live in a country that has never seen a female Prime Minister, and only one provincial Premier (Rita Johnson in B.C. and she wasn't elected in a general election.) As far back as anyone I could find could remember, the U.N.B. Student Union has only had one female president. Jane Arnold in 1987-89, who went on to serve as the Chair of the Canadian Federation of Students. Why is it that few women offer themselves as candidates, and even fewer are elected?

A recent Royal Commission on Canadian Electoral Reform suggested that money, or lack of it, was one of the main reasons why women do not run for public office. This is hardly a surprise when you think that the average female wage earner makes only 2/3 of what men do. Though money isn't a large factor in Student Union elections, male students have far greater access to jobs that pay well, especially in the Breweries, factories and mills across N.B.

The main problem in getting more female candidates at all levels (S.U., municipal, provincial and federal) is that men and women in our society are not equal, and do not have equal access to power.

However, the Student Union could change this by adopting an affirmative action policy. The U.N.B. administration has shown some initiative by establishing the Chair in Women and Engineer; and next year there will be a chair in Women and the Law.

The Womyn Supplement is a publication of the UNB Student Womyn's Collective and the Brunswickian.

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