



the BRUNSWICKAN

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Football question postponed

GORDON LOANE
 THE BRUNSWICKAN

UNB Student Council has decided to postpone a referendum on future support for a proposed varsity football program until a general election in February.

The decision taken at this week's regular Tuesday Council meeting comes just a week before students were set to vote on the issue in a Fall by-election.

Council decided against spending some \$8,000 on a by-election with few contestants.

SU President Joie Hellmeister said the whole situation did not come to light until the close of nominations last Friday and could not have been anticipated.

"We did not know until Friday that people were not interested in the available positions."

"The call for nominations was well advertised and everyone knew about the by-election with the football referendum and all," she said.

Hellmeister met with Craig Young from the 'Friends of UNB Football' prior to the Council meeting.

"I informed him of the situation we were in. I think he understood our position although he was not necessarily happy about it, of course."

Hellmeister said Young seemed reassured when told the referendum would definitely be held in conjunction with February elections.

"The Friends of UNB Football were told the Student Union Executive was not buckling or changing their mind."

"All of us want students to understand this decision was taken solely because of the low number of people interested in running in the elections," Hellmeister emphasized.

"We are hoping that it does not hurt the Friends of UNB Football too much in their quest for future Alumni and corporate sponsorships," she said.

Student Union Vice-President Services Trish Davidson has a decidedly different view of the whole situation Council found themselves in.

"I really think that it was probably irresponsible of the entire Council that it go ahead with a football referendum without prior consideration of the fact that usually a by-election isn't well attended or run for," said Davidson following Tuesday's Council meeting.

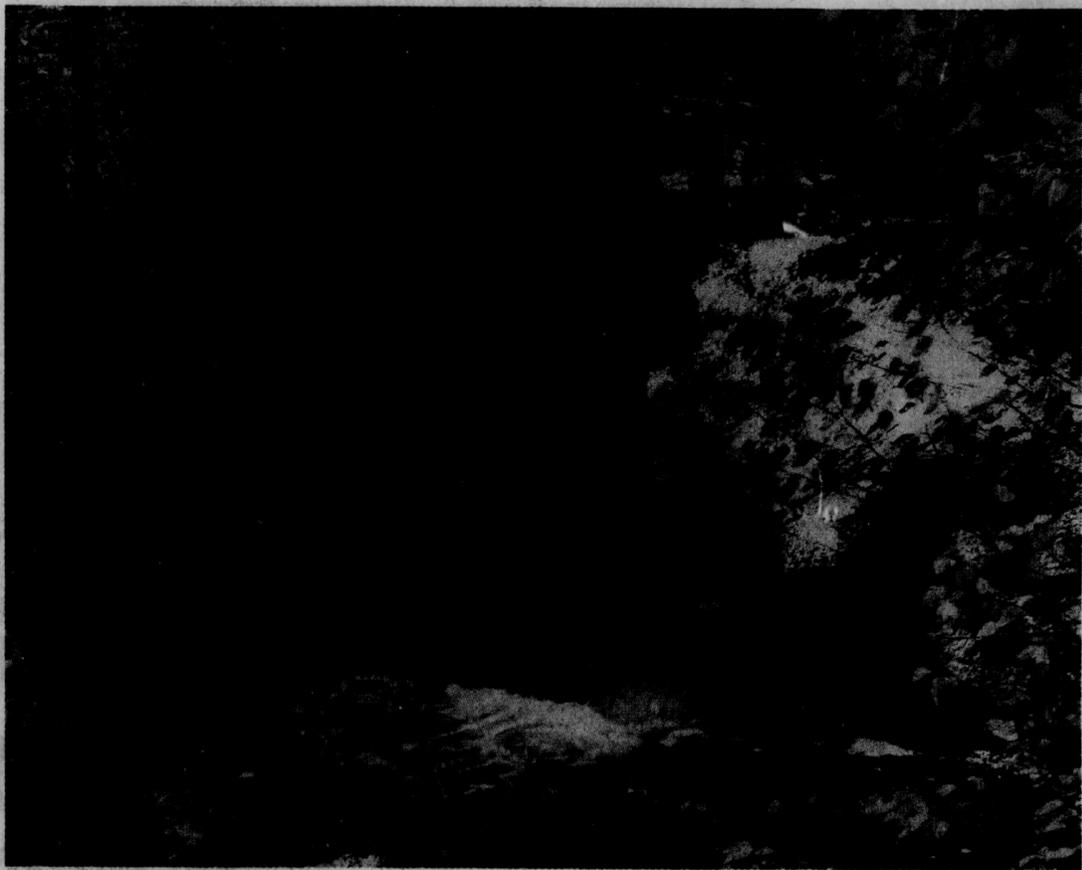
Davidson said she feels personally embarrassed that Council has debated whether to hold a football referendum this fall on three occasions—first to set the election, then re-considering the decision a week later and now to postpone it until February.

"It shows the novice nature of this Council," she said.

"I don't really give a shit about football."

"More of the issue here is the fact that councillors just have not been prepared properly," Davidson said. "Things have not gone well as far as deciding to call an election."

See referendum coverage on page 4



Autumn is leaving, winter is coming.

PHOTO AND PAINTING BY JUD DELONG

Acclamations abound: by-elections cancelled

JOSEPH FITZPATRICK
 THE BRUNSWICKAN

A scant seven days before the first vote was to be cast, Council has cancelled YES/NO ballots in four faculty Council seats and postponed the referendum question on football until next March.

In further motions, Council acclaimed Richard Williams (Arts), Sara Trew (Kinesiology), Gilles Comeau (Computer Science), and Geoff Black (Science) as Faculty representatives.

A by-election will still occur in the Faculty of Engineering where three students (Michael Cormier, Tim McEwen, and Tahsin Rouf) are running for the one vacant seat. Vacancies persist in the following faculties: Education (3), Science (2), and Nursing.

Council also acclaimed Jeff Clark as President of Grad Class '97 and Blair Larsen as Vice President. The two individuals have held their posts on an interim basis since September, and Council had twice attempted to

appoint them, at Summer Council and in September. The positions in Grad Class of Secretary/Treasurer and Project Coordinator remain vacant.

Before Council cancelled the motion, Vice-President (University Affairs) Anoushka Courage told Council that there has been a mistake in the Bylaws since 1993 which would have forced YES/NO ballots in faculties where there were no contests.

After a bit of research and several minutes of pandemonium, the UNB Student Union Council voted 15-0-2 "that all by-elections be cancelled, excluding those with contested positions."

The primary motivation seems to have been financial. Without the referendum, it was argued, polls would not have to be set up in all Faculty buildings. By cancelling four of the five positions, four fewer poll stations would be required.

However, Faculty of Computer Science representative, Rodney Chiasson, warned that the savings will

not be as great as anticipated because some costs have already been realized, and others are the minimum cost of an election. For example, while there would be four fewer polling stations, the CRO agreed to have stations in the Forestry and Geology Building and McConnell Hall in addition to Head Hall and the SUB. As such, there will be at least eight poll workers, plus the Deputy Returning Officers and the Chief Returning Officer. As well, the CRO told Council that 34 poll workers had been trained, and were set to be paid a total of \$195.50 in wages.

According to Courage's research, the provisions of the election bylaw (Sections 30a and 30b) which detail when a candidate can be acclaimed, were never properly adopted by Council. According to minutes from the February 24, 1993 meeting of the Council when the amendment was to have been adopted, it was never discussed.

However, the Bylaws from the Council handbook claim that the

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Neville pushed the bed...



LEANNE DOUTHWRIGHT PHOTO

Correction

The photo that appeared in last week's issue under the headline "Bridges House Bed Push a success," was actually the Neville House Bed Push.

The Neville House Bed Push raised \$4000 for Transition House in Fredericton, a local shelter for abused women and children. Approximately eighty residents of Neville House participated in the 100+ kilometre bed push to raise awareness of the issue of violence against women. The effort began in Saint John at 9:30 p.m. on Friday, October 18 and arrived at the Boyce Farmer's Market at 10:30 a.m. Saturday morning.

We regret our error and any inconvenience it may have caused Neville House.



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Here is a picture of a bust News, Page 5

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Friday November 15

DANCE THE NIGHT AWAY IN THE

BALLROOM

For members and guests only



Coming Soon

Last Class

BASH

Social Club

Est. 1970