

Strax sums up case

Dr. Norman Strax, former UNB physics professor, appeared in the Fredericton courts on Tuesday, Oct. 14, to present his defence summation. He is presently charged with "willfully obstructing a police officer in the execution of his duty".

The main argument of his presentation was directed at disproving the credibility of the two witnesses for the prosecution, Constables Young and Doucette. He also asserted that he was not, in fact, "obstructing" the execution of police duties, but merely flashing photographs of Young as he arrested Willard Parsons on a charge of intoxication in a public place.

From these basic arguments Strax criticized the police structure and police liability in Fredericton. He explained that he did not know how one could prosecute a police officer, nor how one could publicize evidence of police brutality in a town where the only newspaper would not publish such material.

Judge Smith frequently interrupted Strax's presentation in what appeared to be an attempt to maintain a sense of relevance. After attempting to further explain his views on police policy, Strax declared that the presentation of the case by the



police was "a real joke". "What this case boils down to", he concluded, "is whether someone may take a photograph of a policeman."

Mr. Westhaver, who appeared for the prosecution, then presented his summation. In an attempt to define "willful obstruction" as it applied to the Strax case, he presented two precedents for

examination by the court. He asserted that the flash from Dr. Strax's camera was blinding and that precedent had determined that obstruction does not necessarily constitute the use of physical force.

Final judgement of the case will be given by Judge Smith on Friday, Oct. 24 at 1:30 p.m.

campus quickies

THE GREAT RACE

The UNB engineers make their debut into the racing world this Saturday in a style reminiscent of ancient Egypt. Vehicles with a basic requirement of three wheels and a team of human horses will be drawn through the streets of Fredericton in an effort to pull down dollars for the United Appeal Fund.

The race, promoted by the Engineering Undergraduate Society has received wide support and publicity from the Daily Gleaner and Telegraph-Journal as well as strong financial backing from local merchants who sponsor the entries. Local bookies haven't yet posted odds, for those with hopes of high profit, but the United Fund stands to gain another boost in the annual campaign for its member organizations.

The labors of the entrants are not to go unrewarded either. A panel of judges comprised of members from the University, the staff of the

United Appeal Fund and the local citizenry will be on hand to award prizes. Awards for designs are to be given in addition to prizes for the actual race. Lesser baubles go to those who place but to the winners go the real spoils. The lucky winners will have their names enshrined in the engineering building library, for all to view until next year's race.

At present the competition is closed to the Engineering faculty whose idea the competition is, but they have hopes of including all the faculties at UNB next year.

The reception of the idea by the Fredericton community is encouraging and a larger involvement by the UNB student body next year, would well stand to improve the strained relations that the University has with the city now.

See you at the para-mutuals on Saturday morning.

FIRST JUMP

Last week the UNB parachute club got off the ground in a big way when twenty new members made their first jump. Much to the surprise of the students and to the disappointment of their instructors, all the parachutes blossomed perfectly and the only tense moment of the day was provided by Jim Little when he came down in a maze of telegraph wires. Jim was not injured on landing and is reported to be ready for his next jump.

Ann Olafson, a member of

the club, has made her second jump and is really showing up the guys as one of the coolest jumpers.

The following have made their first sport jump; Norman Rogers, Laurie Selin, Lee Stone, Milton Thomas, Brian Ludlock, David Moreland, James O'Neil, John Slanks, Daryl Jardine, Peter Vass, William Durocher, James Bonnell, Clair Blakeney, James Little, Roger Young, Ann Olafson, Doug Bacala, Murray Maffey, Brian Wright and Andy Hickenbotham.

Demonstrator Busted

David Dawes, a 3rd year Arts student at UNB, was unofficially charged by the Fredericton city police in regard to an incident which took place on Tuesday, Oct. 14. Dawes was charged with breaking city by-law No. 10, section 28, which prohibits the passing out of handbills.

The incident occurred in front of City Hall, as approximately 20 people were protesting in support of Dr. Norman Strax. Strax was to appear before the court that afternoon on a charge of "obstructing a police officer in the execution of his duty". The demonstrators were predominantly members of Canadian Students for a Democratic Society but Dawes (a member of CSDS) stated that there are also many non-members handing out pamphlets similar to his.

In an interview with the Bruns, Dawes stated that he approached a police officer and asked him if he would like to read one. "At this the officer took out his book and asked my name. I repeatedly asked for details of the charge but he told me to see the man who sent him down there, Deputy Chief Lasky. The cop didn't even look at what I was handing out."

Dawes said that he hopes this will make the public aware that the Fredericton police are trying to suppress the CSDS and their literature. He further stated that "The cops have

been harrasing us several times but this is the first time anyone's been busted for this. The way this by-law is phrased it seems they should be prosecuting many religious groups also. But it seems that

the word of God is more important than social truth."

At present Dawes is awaiting official notification by the police as to the exact nature of the charge and the date, if any, of his trial.

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