

UNB grad suing NBTel

By PETER F. KUITENBROUWER
Brunswickan Staff

A UNB graduate is suing the New Brunswick Telephone Company for a quarter of a million dollars on behalf of all that company's customers in New Brunswick.

Tom Evans is claiming the company owes each of its customers at least \$1.25 for an interruption in services in July of 1980.

"From July 15 to 22, there was no directory assistance for customers in New Brunswick," said Evans. "My bill and that of each of the rate-payers in New Brunswick should be compensated for this."

Evans has filed two suits against the company, to be heard November 12 in room 7 of the Fredericton court house. Justice Ronald Stephenson will open the trial at 9:30 a.m.

Evans has subpoenaed 10 witnesses to appear at the hearings, among them, Kenneth Cox, the president of NB Tel. He's also requested them to bring documents, including records with a list of their subscribers during the month of July.

Evans is fighting the company on behalf of all its subscribers because, he says, "most of them are ignorant or don't have enough training to sue NB

Tel. Why should NB Tel benefit from its customers' ignorance?" He also claimed that NB Tel has the best profit margin with respect to capita outlay of any Bell Telephone subsidiary in Canada.

"It's a moral obligation as a professional," he said. "Why should we roll over and play dead for these guys? They didn't provide the services they promised in their contracts with customers."

Evans doesn't care how big the company is. "Whether it's Ford or NB Tel or General Motors, I'll still fight them." It's not that Evans has the money.

"Going to school for five years, I've run up quite a student loan bill," he said. "But why should anybody roll over and play dead to these companies?"

In an interview, NB Tel Public Relations Director Ken Moore said: "The matter is before the courts, and we refuse to comment at this time."

However, Evans already knows the grounds on which they will challenge him. "They will claim they're not contractually obliged to provide such service," said Evans. "They will claim the plaintiff did not wait long enough for directory assistance." But I don't feel it's proper that I have to wait 15 minutes for an oper-

ator," he said. "If they say that, then theoretically you could wait for directory assistance for a month."

Evans also faces the arguments that the class action suit is illegal, based on a 1910 King's Court decision in England. But cases since then in Ontario and the U.S. have superceded that, he

said. "I don't think we can compare a decision at the turn of the century to one at the end," he said.

Another thing the telephone company will argue is that Evans can't sue for a sum totalling around a quarter million dollars in small claims court. However, Evans feels it is valid,

seeing as he is suing for each customer individually.

"I'm going over my books, and spending most of my evenings getting the case organized and getting the witnesses ready," said Evans. After all, he pointed out, "when I need to call, can I just throw a can out the window and say 'hello?'"

Inspectors raid residence bars

By JOHN KNECHTEL
Brunswickan Staff

"On the weekend of the 14th inspectors from the justice department went to the bars of five men's residences and as a result of this they are meeting with the dons and presidents of all the men's residences.

Bob Smith, dean of men's residences, made this statement Wednesday

afternoon. He refused to comment on the reason for the action or the possibility of the closure of the bars, saying that he would be a fool to make any statement before the meeting.

Tuesday the presidents and dons of all men's houses received a letter asking them to attend the meeting with the justice department. The letter also says the meeting is being held to

"discuss what charges may be laid and against whom they will be laid."

In speaking about the situation Kevin Ratcliff, former Jones House president and president-elect of the SRC

said it is probable that the residence pubs are attended by minors.

Representatives of the justice department were not available for comment.

New rules in effect at Lady Dunn

By SUSAN REED
Assistant News Editor

According to provisions drawn up by the fire prevention centre, liquor events in the Lady Dunn Hall dining room will be limited to 60 people. One hundred and fifty to 200 people will be permitted in the combined Lady Dunn and Tibbit's main lounges.

Dean of Women Joy Kidd said the change in regulations comes about because the building, formerly the responsibility of the provincial fire marshal's office, is now under the jurisdiction of the Fredericton fire prevention centre. The provisions require that Lady Dunn Hall install back-up lighting

in view of potential power failures. Dean Kidd said this will entail installing a generator in the building which will be both expensive and time consuming.

As well, every exit sign must possess AC/DC lighting. Kidd said there is a rush order on these requirements in order to get the work done as soon as possible.

Kidd said she wanted these regulations made known to students to ensure the cooperation of all those participating in the social events at the Dunn. She said the situation will be hard on the social chairmen of the two houses. Members of the houses should realize these new regulations are the reason for the limitations imposed on social affairs this year she said.

By KEN CUTHBERTSON
Brunswickan Staff

Last Monday night at the regularly scheduled council meeting the SRC seated their new council members, including new Vice-President Lloyd Tozer.

Seated in council were Business Representatives Andy Young and Dave LeBlanc; Representatives-at-Large Randy MacDonald and Beth Quigg; Arts Representatives David Barrett and Lynn Fraser; Engineering Representatives Susan Lynch and John Caldwell; and Physical Education Representative Lynn Chaplain.

New councillors received an overwhelming welcome from not only SRC President Perry Thorbourne but also from Councillor Libbey and Chairman David Kay. Thorbourne reiterated to the new council members that their responsibilities go beyond regular council meetings and that they will be asked to join other committees. He also reminded them that there was an orientation session for them Wednesday and that re-elected councillors should attend to give insight to new councillors. Libbey was the only member of council to officially greet new councillors, and then Chairman

Kay gave welcome "on behalf of the student Senators" adding a bit of humor to the controversial SRC meeting.

The Brunswickan highlighted the meeting with a controversial motion by Margaret Bannister for the financing of a second newspaper. A new typesetting machine was also a concern to the Brunswickan because the one presently being used is broken down.

Before new council had been seated and the confusion about the last motions of the previous meeting had been rectified, the Brunswickan received approval for the purchase of a new \$30,000 typesetter.

There was some debate from councillors, who were mostly in agreement for the need of a new typesetter, except for Andrew Wort who appeared to be the most inquisitive and Steve Howes who asked a series of questions then scampered off to another meeting. Wort at one point said he was "not ready to make a decision" because he was not sure the student union could afford it. SRC President Perry Thorbourne gave confidence to councillors that there would be no problem in financing it.

Members of the press also

quickly responded. Advertising Manager Harold Doherty indicated that the machine was not reliable and Chris Earl added that there was about 50 per cent wastage which costs a lot of money: for every two dollars the Brunswickan is throwing away one dollar. Bob Macmillan, Editor-in-Chief, said in the past summer the Brunswickan had to refuse two books which would bring in revenue because they did not know if the machine would work.

The new machine, which will be purchased from Compugraphic Co. Ltd. will permit faster and easier proofreading, will have an additional capacity to prevent breakdowns by the extensive changing of typestyles, and the faster output will permit faster layout and a more efficient newspaper. The committee to look into a new typesetting machine said it would not only cover immediate needs but also long term needs.

In other business, Ross Libbey was approved to be seated for a half term to the SUB board of directors and Steve Howes was approved to be seated for a full term.

New Council seated