

NEWS

Newsbits

Bridge shooter pleads guilty

Robin Canney appeared in court November 25 and pleaded guilty to all four charges stemming from the October 31 shooting incident.

Although Canney was supposed to undergo a 30-day psychological assessment, his court date was moved up when the judge received medical reports stating that Canney does not suffer from any psychological illness.

Canney is charged with discharging a .22 calibre rifle with intent to endanger a life, aggravated assault, using a .22 calibre rifle in the commission of an offence, and possession of marijuana.

STU student Trina Trecartin was shot by Canney, and treated for wounds to her leg and shoulder. Trecartin is not giving interviews.

Festival gets grants

The Federal Government is providing a \$4,050 grant to the UNB Student Union for a "Festival of Cultural Diversity" being planned for January.

This will be the first year for the Festival. It will be replacing the Winter Carnival at UNB.

The grant comes from the Federal Secretary of State for Multiculturalism. As well, President Armstrong has provided \$1,000 to the Festival from the President's fund.

Cellar finances

Financial statements for the first three months of operations at the Cellar are not yet available and will be delayed until January.

Shona Bertrand, Chair of the board that operates the Cellar, said the pub has operated at a slight loss so far. Paul Estabrooks, Treasurer of the board, is predicting minimal losses in September and October, and a slight profit in November.

Both say that losses are not unexpected for a first year operation.

"We don't expect to make money for a while," said Bertrand.

Acadia winners of BT spirit challenge

Acadia University gave the greatest display of school spirit during Breakfast Television's spirit challenge last week.

Producers who judged the event said that Acadia had a well-organized and entertaining morning planned for BT host Scott Boyd.

Residences at Acadia competed in a song-writing contest, and Acadia mascots helped pump up thousands of students who turned out to demonstrate their spirit.

Council briefs

The Student Union wants to improve its public image and is requiring all clubs, societies and organizations holding events to publicly acknowledge SU contributions.

The SU's name must appear on posters and tickets for events.

The SU Banner must be displayed at events and the SU must be thanked as a contributor in situations where sponsors are named and thanked for their financial support.

SU Activities Director Daryl Kent considers first term entertainment a success.

Three concerts, two comedy nights and a successful movie series mean the SU has nothing to complain about," Kent wrote in a report to Council this week.

"The Spirit of the West concert was a sell-out despite it being a dry event," said Kent.

The Watchmen and Uisce/Great Big Sea concerts were less successful at the gate and financially according to Kent's report.

All three concerts lost money totalling just over \$9,200, but were well within the Campus Entertainment Budget.

Lecture to mark Human Rights Day

In recognition of Human Rights Day, December 10, the Atlantic Human Rights Centre at Saint Thomas University will host a lecture on the rights of the child.

Brian Ward, Director General of the Children's Bureau in Ottawa, is the featured speaker.

The lecture will be held in the Conference Room of Holy Cross House at 11 a.m.

Green Paper protests planned

by Stacey Barton
Brunswickan News

The local branch of International Socialists is formulating its plan of attack against Lloyd Axworthy's Social Reform Policy.

The group met on November 24 to form an ad hoc committee which would mobilize students and working people to fight the proposed cuts to education and social programs.

Shawn Corey, branch committee member of the IS, said he feels that time for talk is over, and that Paul Martin, Lloyd Axworthy, and Jean Chrétien have already made up their minds.

"I'm convinced that they're not listening. I'm certain of it," said Corey.

Corey is concerned that UNB's SU is not participating in protests.

"They are playing little baby politicians and don't care about the students," said Corey.

Corey said that UNB students should have been with the protesters who threw eggs and Kraft Dinner on the hill in Ottawa.

The committee is planning to use December 16, the day the federal Human Resource Development Committee finishes its tour here in Fredericton, as a springboard to the student strike.

The IS ad hoc committee plans to protest outside of the meetings. They expect to be joined by the group, Students Aware of the World.

While Corey admits that a one day strike is somewhat ineffective he said the protest is better than making no effort at all.

"Inevitably a strike, even a one-day one, becomes a means to building a bigger end."

Other groups around the campus have also been getting together to discuss general feelings and plans of action against the Green Paper.

The UNB Joint Senate Committee meeting, held on November 23, discussed concerns that the cuts may first affect research in the laboratories or libraries, thus affecting the quality of education.

Another fear voiced by

educators was that the standard of post-secondary education could fall. This would result in competition between established universities and "no frill" institutions which may be created and in turn compete for the student vouchers.

Tim Andrews, retired chair of the Maritime Higher Education Commission, presented a background paper to assist the Senate Committee in preparing their brief, which will be presented to the committee hearings at the December 16th meetings.

On the Saint Thomas campus, the Social Work Department is planning their own form of protest, billed as "an evening of satiric and sobering reflection."

Eric Keating, board member of the Canadian Council on Social Development, Rita Hurley, member of Women Acting Today for Tomorrow, Kelly Lamrock, and "The Kraft (Dinner) Company," will be addressing questions surrounding the deficit and resulting cutbacks.

BIS calls for better racism policy

By Connie Corbett
Brunswickan News

The UNB campus is not rife with racism says VP Academic Tom Traves.

Citing a survey of 1200 1994 graduates, Traves said out of the 425 who took the time to respond, only 1.2 per cent said they had run into racial problems on the UNB campus.

But George Equakun, Vice President of the Board of International Students, says that the reason for this low number is the passivity of those who do run into racial discrimination.

"The minority groups on campus are often very passive," said George Equakun. "Someone who is discriminated against may be too intimidated to make a complaint to the administration."

The university's proposed policy on harassment has been distributed to groups around the campus for their comments. Equakun said the BIS did not receive a copy of the proposal.

"I have seen the proposal, but it was not given to me by the administration," said the representative of the BIS.

"These guidelines are not enough. The university should establish a race relations office. This way those who are not bold enough to make complaints to the administration, will be able to have their concerns heard."

"This is a complaints procedure. It discusses how the university deals with people who feel they have been victimized. It also tells them where and how to complain," he added.

The university runs an educational campaign on race relations during frosh week, said the VP Academic.

"Last year during frosh week, a pamphlet was distributed to all of the university's new students, describing what racism is and what to do if you feel victimized."

"We want to develop a comprehensive and clear policy as

soon as possible and we are looking for feedback from the different university groups," Traves added.

However, Equakun said that this is not enough.

"If the university is serious about racial harmony it should be in their mission statement. The university must let the world know that it does not tolerate racism."



It's that time of year again, kids. Exams, papers, and those precious study breaks in the library. Do these people remember where they live?

Photos by Roxanne Robinson