

Sexual assault support group stalled

By Janice McConnell
Brunswickan News

A counsellor in Counselling Services supports the Student Union's decision to delay a student-run campus Sexual Assault Information Service.

Finkelman said that it was "unclear how [the proposed] Outreach program would be run and how it would fit in with other initiatives on campus."

Referring to the proposed student program, Finkelman emphasized that "students helping students is a very positive idea" but that "to ensure the program's success it is important for Greg Moore to check around on campus to see what ongoing programs are providing."

His concern was mainly that the proposed program should "complement existing services instead of duplicating them."

He suggested that the Orientation committee as well as residences and the Student Health Centre should be consulted to help inform and improve the development of the program.

Finkelman also said that there is a "need for men to educate other men" to work on changing attitudes that support sexual aggression.

Finkelman has his own proposal that he has submitted to the University entitled "Responding to and Preventing Sexual Aggression Among Stu-

dents of UNB & STU: A Proposal for a Peer Education Program for Men."

His program would involve focusing on sexual aggression among acquaintances as "96% of female victims reported their aggressors were known to them," according to Finkelman's proposal.

The program would not be restricted to only those behaviours defined under the law as sexual assault but, according to the proposal, would encompass unwanted sexual activities with "varying degrees and forms of pressure, coercion, and force."

He also plans to organize educational events and to involve men from UNB and STU in peer education programs. His proposed length of training for peer educators is three days, taking place just prior to Orientation week in the fall.

The program being proposed by Finkelman at Counselling Services is asking for more than \$93,000 for the first three years.

One of Finkelman's concerns with the proposed student-run Information Service is training.

"Training is really important with volunteers so that the program works the way that it is designed to."

He recommended the Fredericton Sexual Assault Information Centre as a resource for training.

According to Moore's plan, volunteers from the student or-

ganizing committee are already being trained there. Training at the Centre is an intensive nine-week program that begins each September.

The organization committee for the student-run Information Service, which would be run by volunteers, had asked for a total budget of \$450. To date, the group has been granted \$150 by the Student Union.

Chris Alward, VP Student Services, said that the SU needs more time to go over the program.

"Council still supports the service," said Alward. "This is not a technique to stop the initiative."

Alward says that giving more time to develop the program will improve its quality, and says that it is imperative that the students work with Finkelman.

"One of the most important things is to sit down with Larry at length and if possible address his concerns and find out what structure or program can complement each other," stated Alward.

However, Alward admits that he had not spoken to Finkelman about his concerns with the student's proposal prior to last week's council meeting.

Alward referred the importance of having Finkelman on side during the November 16 Student Council meeting in which he commented that "If

we started in January, I doubt he'd be impressed."

Larry Finkelman prepared a report in 1992 which surveyed unwanted sexual experiences among students of UNB and STU.

The survey found that over a quarter of all students who responded to the survey had had unwanted sexual experiences in the previous year and that close to one in seven reported experiencing rape or attempted rape. While 92.1 per cent of the students who reported their unwanted experience told a friend, only 4.9 per cent contacted Counselling Services and 1.6 per cent went to UNB security and/or the police.

Moore suggested that a peer managed program could increase the amount of reporting of assaults to authorities.

Two separate assaults that occurred as a student entered Bridges House were reported in late September. Mischief charges were filed against the student after the police decided that the reports were false. Those charges have since been dropped.

Moore feels the Bridges House incidents "reflect a pressing need for an organization dedicated to coordinating informing and educating the public with regards to sexual assault and violence against women."

Red 'N Black Revue delayed until February

By Mark Savoie
Brunswickan News

UNB's annual fall variety extravaganza will be held in the later this winter.

A scheduling conflict with the Playhouse has forced Michelle Denning, Director of the Revue to reschedule the Red 'N Black Revue for February 16-18.

Denning tried during the summer to book the Playhouse for either late October or early November, but was told that the entire fall schedule had already been completed.

The Playhouse has hosted the Red 'N Black for over twenty years, but this year's busy schedule made it impossible to accommodate the Revue for this fall, although in previous years the Red 'N Black Revue has managed to schedule the Playhouse as little as a month in advance.

Denning and Assistant Director Lita Llewellyn tried to find another venue so that they could hold the Revue this fall. They found, however, that no other place in Fredericton has both the size and the atmosphere needed to host the event.

Denning is attempting to look at the change in schedule positively.

"We hope that it will have a good effect. It will give people more time to plan and rehearse."

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Alcohol promotion aimed at students

by Cheryl McLean
Brunswickan News

Five hundred people decided to 'be their own dog' last Thursday at the Social Club.

The Red Dog promotional launch was the first to be held on campus. Organizers said that the beer is being geared toward students.

"The product itself is geared toward the 19-24 age group," explained Dave Erb, Moosehead representative for UNB.

Promotions are held according to the target market. Advertisements for Red Dog have appeared in student newspapers across the country for the past few weeks.

Lisa Lane, of the SMART-PACC alcohol awareness group, said she had no objections to holding a beer launch at the university. SMART-PACC provides support

and education about alcohol to students.

Lane says that students will make their own choices about alcohol consumption, but that they should be informed decisions.

"If students are going to drink responsibly, it doesn't matter where they get it or when," said Lane.

Students who received invitations were given a maximum of three free beer.

The invitations were "given to people we are sponsoring here on campus, various licensees in the city, and various clubs and organizations," Erb said. Red Dog was introduced to New Brunswick in the liquor store at Halloween.

Red Dog commercials were shown during the launch party, and the dog itself made a surprise appearance.

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