



### MOOSEHEAD CONTEST WINNER

*Moosehead Win-Your-Tuition Contest Winning Contestant from the Little Rock.*  
 From left to right: Mike French, (Manager) Little Rock, Duffy (bartender), Mike Moore, tuition winner, (S.T.U.) and Peter Allison, Moosehead Representative.

## How do you spell politics? L - A - W - S - U - I - T!!!

Within the labyrinth of student politics, there is now great unrest. The word for the year is lawsuit. Can you say that, boys and girls? L-A-W-S-U-I-T. Good! For a rough estimate of court action in progress, you might be surprised to find out that over thirty people are involved in lawsuits somehow related to university politics.

Tony Tracy, our elected but unseated comptroller has filed a motion for an injunction in which he demands that no meetings to be convened (by SU Council), no more changes issued from the SU bank accounts by the present signing officers. Not asking for much, is he?

to by-laws with respect to the duties of the Executive Officers and no more cheques to be Next in line, we have Brown, Bennett and English who are suing Steven Smith and Co., claiming that their overthrow was illegal and thus invalid.

The Student Union is not taking this lying down! Larry Hansen and Co. are suing Bosnitch, Bennett, English and Koncz (Yearbook) in hopes of recovering lost money. The SU advocates that suing is not the optimum way to business.

Out of all this confusion, little has been settled as of yet, and as for the other lawsuits that exist but were not mentioned, they promise to be headaches for some.

# LEGAL AFFAIRS

WHAT DO YOU DO WHEN YOU'RE UP AGAINST BUREAUCRACY?

Steve thought he would be able to begin repairs to his home very early next spring. He had applied for government aid through the "Renovation 87" program. After having carefully read the documents which were sent to him, he was certain that he met the eligibility requirement in every way. He was simply told last week that he did not meet the requirements. He unsuccessfully complained to the civil servant concerned and to his superiors. After inquiring, he realized that the Ombudsman might undoubtedly be able to help him.

In New Brunswick, it goes without saying that it is the Ombudsman Act which governs that institution whose role is to counterbalance government bureaucracy. As we will see, the Ombudsman may be considered as the public watchdog. The Ombudsman has the authority to investigate complaints brought against a provincial authority. Specifically, he may look into a decision or omission made by a representative of a department, commission coming under provincial jurisdiction, a municipality or a community college. However, his jurisdiction does not include federal authorities.

In 1985, the Office of the Ombudsman received one thousand, two hundred and seventy-two (1,272) new complaints from citizens of the province. Complaints may be made by letter, by telephone or in person. The Office of the Ombudsman also takes the initiative to conduct investigations on its own. From time to time, with a view to establishing closer links with the public, the Ombudsman holds private hearings in different areas of the province, correctional institutions or psychiatric hospitals in order to receive complaints from people who feel their rights have been infringed. In order to file a grievance, you must have a sufficient interest in order that the matter be settled and you must not have had knowledge of the matter for more than a year prior to making the petition.

If a grievance were judged to be trivial or not made in good faith, the Ombudsman might, in his discretion, not conduct an investigation. However, where an investigation is conducted and it reveals grounds for a grievance, the Ombudsman may recommend to the person or organism responsible for the wrong you have sustained to intervene on your behalf. For example, it may be that the decision concerning you is in fact illegal, unfair or discriminatory. The Ombudsman cannot for an authority to make a decision but if, in his opinion, the steps taken are unsatisfactory, he may transfer his report to the cabinet and then present a report to the Legislative Assembly.

Lastly, under the Family Services Act, when a request for information concerning the adoption of someone is unsuccessful, the Ombudsman can be requested to review the decision. The same thing applies in the case of a refusal to disclose information requested in accordance with the Right to Information Act. The person who has been wronged may submit the matter to the Ombudsman. There are two special remedies expressly provided for in these two (2) acts.

## P.A.L.E. workshop

PALE (Peer Alcohol Education) is students helping other students to develop responsible attitudes toward alcohol use.

University life is often the first opportunity most students have to bring their drinking out of the closet. Drinking habits are formed here and therefore the university can be a key place to educate students

on the responsible use of alcohol. It seems sometimes that instead of doing this, the university context actually promotes alcohol and its abuse. The intention of PALE is not to spoil the fun, but to help students know the facts about alcohol, and to begin to prevent the stress and injury that can and does result from irresponsible alcohol use. PALE is not a temperance group.

Each year new peer educators are introduced to the program in a weekend workshop led by fellow peer

educators. Following the training sessions, the new peer educators are prepared to provide the program to students on and off the campus.

This term a workshop for students wishing to be peer alcohol educators will be held this Saturday, January 24, at the Alumni Memorial lounge. This is a good opportunity to be of service on an important social issue, and also to gain some leadership skills.

If you are interested, please call Monte Peters, 454-3525.

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