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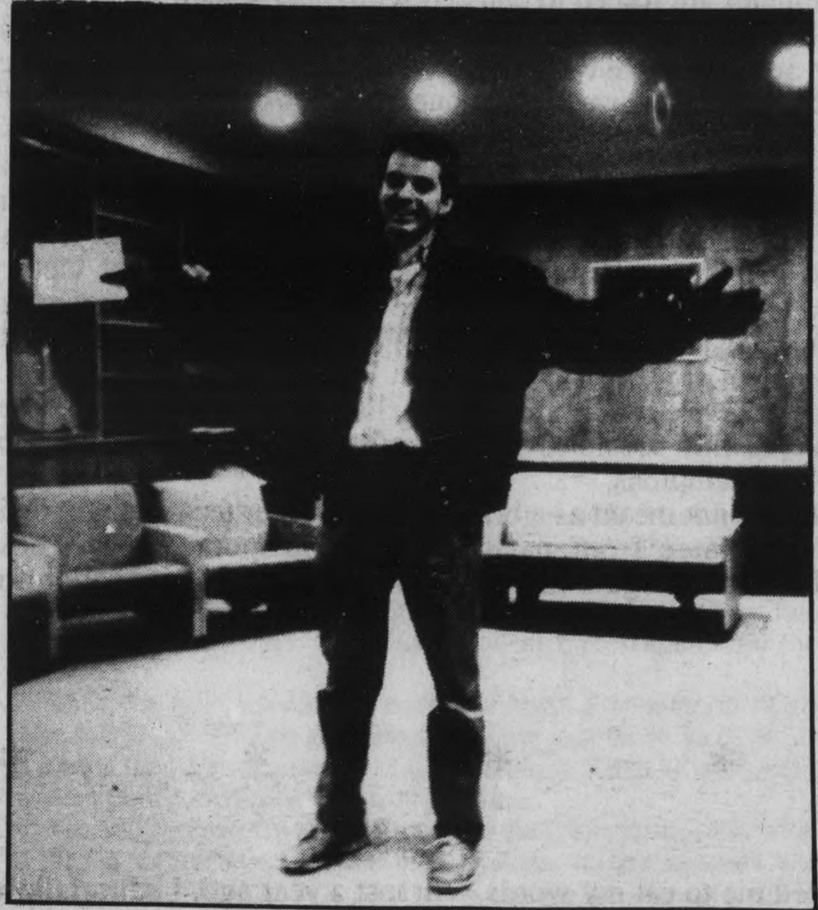
Student Union touring residences

Photo by Glen Vienneau



Wayne Carson, President of the Student Union, at the Jones House lounge in his unsuccessful attempt to speak to residents at the house.

by Pierre St. Amand

For the past week the executive of the Student Union has been touring the various houses on campus.

In an interview with *the Brunswickan,* Wayne Carson, President of the Student Union, revealed that the purpose for the tour is threefold.

First, the main priority is to inform the students about the activities, projects and issues the SU is currently dealing with.

Secondly, the SU is asking the students for their opinions on several controversial issues (i.e. should the executive fund gay pubs, do you think there should be a football team, what should be the future of CHSR).

Thirdly, their goal is to encourage students in residence to run in the upcoming elections.

Although touring has been done in the past, Carson came up with the idea earlier this year and it is something he believes should be done once per term.

Carson also states that he is going to attempt to amend their constitution to require the executive committee to do a resident tour per term.

The rationale behind this is it's "phenomenally productive and beneficial", and the responses are "quite interesting".

Carson's letter in the Beaverbook states that "I strongly believe that student government both in theory and in practice should reside with the students."

The tour of the residences is intended to ensure that this takes place through effective communication between the SU and the students.

Two houses have already received the visit of Carson and his executive. They were Harrison with an attendance of 30, and MacKenzie with an attendance of 10-15 people.

Jones House was the next house on the agenda last Monday night.

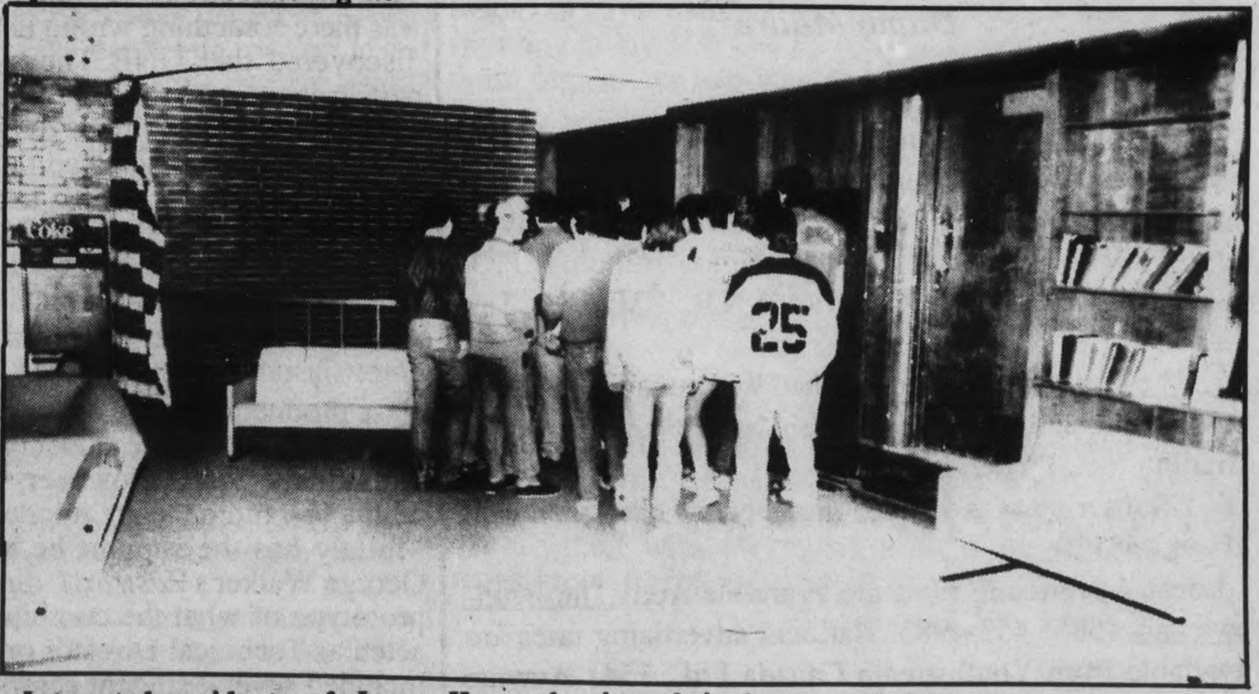
Unfortunately Carson arrived around three minutes late and was told by Serge Doucet, President of Jones House that no one seemed interested that night and to reschedule the meeting for after the March break.

Yet about ten Jones House residents showed up for the meeting wondering where Carson was.

Other residents felt that having a tour at this time of the year was awkward because of mid-terms and academic workload before the March break.

Doucet and Carson both feel that if the executive came during a House meeting more people would attend.

Posters around Jones House also stated that the meeting was at 7:00 p.m., when in actual fact it was planned for 8:00 p.m., which caused more confusion for residents.



Interested residents of Jones House leaving their lounge thinking Wayne Carson is not going to show up.

Student Union positions open for nominations

by Allan Carter

Nominations for positions in the UNB Student Union are open. They will be closing on March 7.

David M. Kilfoil, chief returning officer, has been very disappointed with the past number of nominees for the positions. He is hoping that this year will be better.

As of now only one form has come in for an Arts representative position. Kilfoil says that a "fair number of forms have gone out but not enough."

He would like to see at least two people running for each position to avoid the yes/no question that was used in the last election for four out of five executive positions alone.

Basically, the cost is the same for council when running an election, whether or not a large number of people participate and vote or if a small number do. $4500 is needed to run an election for the UNB Student Union.

Kilfoil states that the situation is simple. "You need candidates to have an election. He says that a lot of people think about running, but are worried about losing. He does not believe they should worry because in any case the "gain in experience" is what is important.

Kilfoil believes that one primary function of the Student Union Council is to handle Student Union fees. Students should be concerned about how their money is spent, therefore they should vote, or run in the elections themselves.

The deadline for candidates to submit their forms is March 7. Kilfoil hopes to see three things happen: two people running for each position, a 30% voter turnout (last year it was in the 20% range) and a fair and uncontroversial election.

International development seminar to be held

Press Release

An International development seminar will be held from May 12 - June 2 at Trent University, Peterborough, Ontario.

Entitled, "Discovering our Future," it brings together over 100 students from colleges and universities across Canada; approximately one third of the participants are students from developing countries currently studying in Canada.

The themes of the seminar include world cultures, the environment, the status of women, and the nature of power. Costs of travel, accommodation, and seminar materials are covered by the Trent International Program.

Participants are required to pay a $200 registration fee. Application deadline is March 2.

For more information please contact Professor W. Buxton, Director, Third World Studies Programme, Faculty of Arts, 453-4849.