



Impeachment attempt falls incomplete

By BILL "NICK" TRAER
Sports Editor

Sports Editor's Note: I missed a good hockey game to catch this fiasco, so I felt that I should be sporting about it when I wrote this news story, so no complaints, because if there are, I will know. And I will get you. It's 1984, ya know.

Last Tuesday was what seemed to be a dark and gloomy night for SRC President John Bosnitch.

The main course for the night was Roast Bosnitch, as the SRC had given notice of motion to impeach our President.

Yes indeed, this meeting looked like it was going to have more stick handling than a Red Devils Hockey Game. As the people filed into the room, one immediately noticed that this circus had more appeal than one of the three ring variety. The room was filled to capacity as 70 people anxiously awaited to see if the president would be able to defend against the attacks launched his way.

The motion to impeach President Bosnitch came from Tim Norris, the Law representative. He charged that John should be impeached under Section 14, 6, or in layman's terms, Dereliction of Duty.

He felt that it was imperative that the council either show its support or lack of support for the President.

Immediately after the motion was read, Comptroller Aubrey Kirkpatrick moved that Chairman Michael Bennett step down on the grounds of personal involvement. Bosnitch threw a curveball into the game and pointed out that 3 days notice was required in order for this to happen.

Having survived this minor skirmish, Bennett then informed council that in order for this impeachment motion to pass, a two thirds majority of the councillors eligible to vote must be in favour, not two thirds of those present. In all, 14 people were eligible to vote.

Being the mover of the motion, Tim Norris was the man to present the crux of the issue. Norris stated that he believed Bosnitch had



SRC President John Bosnitch trying to hide his fear at Tuesday's impeachment trial. Photo by Jean-Louis Tremblay

destroyed democracy in the SRC, had turned it into a farce, and that the President was incompetent. The entertainment on campus this year had been a failure and John was ignoring too many bylaws, said Norris.

Jeff Fryer, the seconder, believed the motion to be totally justified. He pointed out that the student directory was nearly finished, and then John Bosnitch changed the pass word on the computer so Tim Lethbridge couldn't finish it. Nor was there a yearbook editor appointed as required by the constitution, or a constitution committee appointed at the first meeting in September. Councillor Ross Antworth did not find the situation as amusing as most of those attending, he felt, "It's sad to see that it's easy for everyone to laugh at such accusations." He seemed quite disturbed that there was a "lack of trust" between the council and the President. How could the council go before another body such as the Board of Governors and request something if they (the SRC) were a "house divided."

Toks Akapata, a member of the gallery, who has always been vocal in expressing his opinions, wished to point out to the council that under the basic rights of this country, a

man is innocent until proven guilty. Oliver Koncz, himself a former member of council stood up on behalf of the President. He really couldn't understand why everyone was dumping on John. Dr. Downey gave John a final warning

without even a phone call telling him to shape up, and now Koncz said, Council was doing the same thing, coming down hard on Bosnitch for something he really didn't deserve. Koncz wondered why the matter wasn't left to the students at election time.

Kirkpatrick was quite impressed with the turnout of students but he felt that it was a shame it was due to an event such as an impeachment. In Kirkpatrick's argument, he stated that he was very distressed over the fact that the SRC was supposed to be run as a business and that John couldn't even perform the day to day paperwork that everyone else in the student union completed with regularity.

Kirkpatrick blitzed right to the matter and charged that Bosnitch had never called a by-election when Vice-President Brenda Paul resigned at the end of March last year, and we still don't have one. President Bosnitch pointed out that this election would have taken place during late April, or rather exam time, and therefore might have proven more a hindrance than a help.

One specific charge Kirkpatrick leveled at the

President was a lack of communication between himself and John, and that Bosnitch has specifically told the staff of the CSL store to ignore him, while Kirkpatrick was technically their boss.

Several other points that Kirkpatrick made the way of council were that Bosnitch was constitutionally bound to hold a by-election when the council is short 3 members. They are presently short 5 members. There are also 5 groups presently waiting to be recognized so they could receive funding. These groups were assured by Bosnitch that they were going to be recognized back in September. Said groups are not yet eligible to receive funding, but they have it, after having bypassed regular procedures.

Ross Antworth then posed the question "Is John a man of action or reaction?" He believed that John was a man of reaction. In order to get Bosnitch to clean things up, he had to be pushed into it.

Other councillors, ie. Mike Laaper and Joanne Ellis, expressed their lack of faith in their quarterback, President Bosnitch and it was time to take him out of the game.

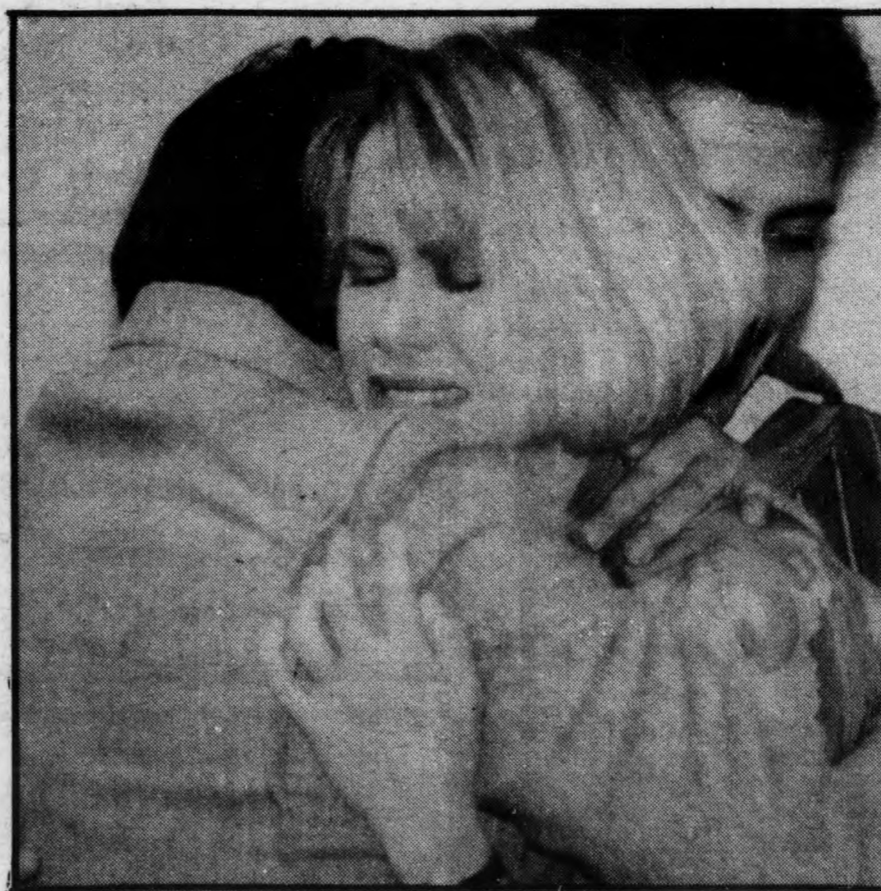
Then when possession of the ball was given to the President, he proceeded to use his oratory skills to regroup and go on the offensive. "No matter what happens I only have one vote" was the President's defense to accusations that he controlled the council. He later reasoned that if he pulled the council's strings, then why were they trying to give him a permanent suspension from the game? "If there's any dictatorship, then it's a dictatorship of those who vote", he said.

President Bosnitch said that the yearbook had submitted a revised constitution which no longer required him to appoint the Editors of the yearbook.

He had talked to Editor Hilary Earl earlier and was informed that the yearbook would be finishing by this Sunday.

Bosnitch then passed for a first down by pointing out that if Jeff Fryer's plan of giving a money back guarantee on the yearbook being here on October 15, were put into effect, the Student Union would be out of a lot of money.

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Susan Neill after the announcement that John won't be impeached. Photo by Jean-Louis Tremblay