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Weekend Weather

Friday will be mostly sunny with a few cloudy periods. Highs -9.
On Saturday it will be mostly sunny with a 30% chance of rain.
On Sunday expect cloudy conditions with a high of -12.

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PCYF denies plotting takeover

by Jonathan Stone

Confusion and controversy have arisen over a document leaked to universities involving the national office of the Progressive Conservative Youth Federation.

The document, entitled *Post-Secondary Strategy for 1992-1993, Youth in Action*, calls for a takeover of the intellectual debate on campus from the "organized student Left", and to "create issues that benefit our (the PC) party."

The strategy entails three campaigns: a push for Anti-Political Correctness; an attack on the Canadian Federation of Students (CFS); and student government takeovers.

The PCYF contends that the document is not theirs, that it may have been 'leaked' for media attention by ex-PCYF members in the west who have joined the Reform Party. Members of the Reform Party on the UNB campus could not be reached for comment before press time.

Justin Brown, the PCYF's national post-secondary policy director, explained that the national executive receives numerous strategies from campus organizations for consideration.

"We never passed it; we really never did anything with it," he said.

According to Brown, the Reformers sent a four-point strategy to their campus presidents, along with the leaked document to gain from the PCYF's misfortunes.

CFS's national representative for New Brunswick, Tammy Yates, doubts this however:

"It makes me angry that a political party would go after a non-partisan lobby group which is just a group of students organized democratically to raise

issues that are of concern to us," she said, "I don't exactly expect them to accept ownership."

She added, "Our biggest concern is the section on 'Student Government Takeover'. They're not saying that they want to get involved in student politics on campus because they're concerned about what we do to serve students - they're saying they want to run for personal gain."

The Student Union, who has just recently decided to recognize political parties on campus, expressed concern.

President Eric Burchill, an opponent to political party recognition, maintains that problems like this will continue to occur.

"In my mind it doesn't really matter where this came from. These are the type of games that are played. We're busy enough trying to represent the students at UNB both here and nationally. It was for this type of occurrence that I was opposed to us recognizing political parties."

Local PCYF organizations claim that they were unaware of the document's existence until *The Brunswickan* provided them with a copy.

"We never heard of it before," said PCYF provincial policy director Jim MacGee, "What it says is very serious and of great concern, but it's not a party policy document. It's such a ludicrous document, it's tough to take credibly."

PCYF campus president Dennis McCarron added, "We should emphasize that we have no secret agenda. If someone would like to see our strategic objectives, to see that these aren't in them, that's OK."

The question remaining now is whether this will harm the future of political parties on campus.

"I don't see it particularly damaging. I think that they (the student union) have to be clear and understand what the situation is," said Brown.

Burchill believes the local PCYF is innocent, but he is wary of any similar occurrences.

"The PC Youth will not suffer any repercussions. I don't believe that the group here on campus had anything to do with this," he said.

He acknowledged that similar documents do exist whether they are adopted as policy or not.

"Perhaps it might do council good to reconsider what is going on here, and at least accept the implications of continued papers like this coming in. There's only 24 hours in a day."

To safeguard against such political strategies, the Union's constitution contains bylaws prohibiting partisan takeovers.

Said Burchill, "I think that for some students it's a very valuable experience to get involved with these parties, I just don't see student unions necessarily being the right avenue to be supporting and recognizing these type of groups."

Brown, however, did mention his dissatisfaction with the CFS.

"The CFS tend to represent a different constituency than most students. I think if they were interested in curriculum issues and student issues that take place on the campus then they wouldn't be falling apart on their own. I think they're getting pretty antsy because their organization is falling apart."

"What bothers me about the CFS in particular is that for the last several years the leadership hasn't been particularly moderate, it has been very ideological. I hope that at least there can be more moderate leadership, that's more willing to work with government to achieve some reasonable goals."

Yates disagrees, claiming that the CFS does work for students, suggesting that it is the PCYF who is alarmed.

She mentioned some of the campaigns that CFS has worked on, including 'No means No', 'International Women's Week', and 'If You Love Education Day'.

"Right now we are planning a federal election readiness campaign and we'll be attacking the Tories simply because they're the government in power. It looks like they're scared," she said.



Torch lights and fireworks -This year's Winter Carnival included the revival of the UNB tradition of the torch light parade. The parade was held as part of a pep rally before the UNB-STU hockey game on Wednesday night. The rally, which was presented by Varsity-Mania and the UNB Student Union, also included a fireworks display. For the results of the game, see page 21. Kevin G. Porter photo.

SU begins Student Schedule Service

by Kayleigh Freeman

The UNB Student Union has begun a new service for students with dependent children.

The new Student Schedule Service will provide students with a contact number to give their children's teachers or caregivers in case of an emergency during the academic day.

Students can pick up forms at the Student Union office, and register the titles, locations, and times of the courses in which they are enrolled. The information will be kept on file so that the student can easily be located should an emergency arise with his or her child. As well, students can register the

times and locations of their usual study or research work.

SU President Eric Burchill says the idea was one which the SU Executive got from a similar program being offered at Carleton University. He says the service will bring some peace of mind to students with young children.

The service will be restricted to daytime class hours, between 8:30 and 4:30, as those are the operating hours of the Student Union office, from which the service will be run. The service is being provided for emergency situations only, and is not intended for use on a day to day basis.