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Rugby players get a lawyer for SDC Trial

Joseph W.J. FitzPatrick III
The Brunswickan

There have been a number of new developments in the case of UNB rugby players charged under the Student Disciplinary Code.

The Brunswickan has learned that the UNB Ironmen Rugby Club has asked Fredericton lawyer George Filliter to represent them before the Student Disciplinary Committee where they will face charges stemming from an outdoor party held September 23rd.

According to team members contacted by The Brunswickan, they have been advised not to comment on the case.

Filliter, an active member of the rugby alumni, was out of the country this week and could not be reached for comment at press time. He holds a bachelor of Science and a Law degree from UNB. He also holds a Masters in Law from the London School of Economics. He is a labour relations specialist.

The trial is still a few weeks off, pending consultations between the SDC and the lawyer for the students, but it has already been decided the trial will not be a closed proceeding.

"As far as I'm concerned, and I'm certain the final decision is mine, it will be open to the public," said

Kerry Hatfield, Senior Law Student and Chair of the seven member Student Disciplinary Committee.

It remains to be seen, however, if there will be a single trial, or 46 separate trials.

"I do believe, from the indications I have, that both the University and the lawyer for the rugby players want a single trial which is probably in everybody's best interest," Hatfield ventured, adding the decision has yet to be made, as she has not met with Filliter because he has been out of the country.

Hatfield said an orientation meeting of the SDC has been scheduled for next week. The Brunswickan has learned this meeting will take place Wednesday, November 8th. At this meeting, members will receive instructions from the Chair on the procedures for a trial. Aiding in the Orientation will be SDC Faculty advisor and UNB Law Professor Tom Kuttner and University Secretary Stephen Stroppe.

Hatfield is sensitive to an appearance that the SDC is not organized. She points out that while more than half of first term has already elapsed, she was had to wait until the membership of the SDC was formally approved by the UNB Board of Governors. That approval came two weeks ago on Friday, October 20th.

While the defense has been identified, it has yet to be determined who will act as prosecutor on behalf of

the university.

"In most cases, it's usually Campus Police," Hatfield said. "I'd say 99% of the cases we have it's Campus Police. Now this is one of the few cases when it's just the university at large."

Hatfield told The Brunswickan the prosecutor will not be a lawyer hired by the university.

"It's not a solicitor," she said. "It will just be someone who will come and argue what the university wants represented."

The trial itself could last as short as a few hours, or as long as several days.

"A normal trial lasts three or four hours," Hatfield explained. "I'd like to set aside a Thursday night, a Friday night and maybe Saturday. I want to be very thorough."

Following the trial, deliberation by the Committee could take several days or just a few hours.

"It varies," Hatfield said. "I've seen uncomplicated cases seem to take a long time. This is highly publicized and it's being taken seriously by everyone on the committee. I'm sure they're going to take as much time as they want."

If the deliberations go long into the evening, Hatfield told The Brunswickan she will adjourn the proceedings and release the verdict and sentencing, if needed, a few days later following additional discussions.

If everything goes ahead smoothly, a verdict could come as soon as the end of November.

In general, Hatfield said the SDC trials are not normally very formal, but that she will be much strict owing to the large number of people who will be present, and the attention the trial will attract.

A total of forty six students have been charged with a variety of violations of the Student Disciplinary Code including possession and consumption of alcohol in a public place, speaking or acting in a manner which harms or threatens to harm persons or property as well as the misuse of university property.

As a result of the September incident, the university has suspended the Ironmen Rugby Club for one week and handed them two-years probation for improper use of alcohol, unsportsmanlike conduct and rookie initiations.

The Student Disciplinary Committee, in addition to Hatfield, includes Law student Rebecca Pitts, three undergraduate students representatives (Steven Shepard, Lori Rand and Cliff Arnold) and one graduate student representative (Ja'net Barchard).

Joe Allen, Vice-President (University Affairs) represents the UNB Student Union on the SDC, but he told The Brunswickan he will not be hearing the case, because of his previous involvement advising some of the rugby students charged.

Cellar delayed, yet again

Joseph W.J. FitzPatrick III
The Brunswickan

Another stumbling block has delayed food service in The Cellar Pub yet again.

This time, it is a provincial health permit. The Brunswickan has learned that construction of a kitchen in the UNB Student Union-owned and operated The Cellar Bar & Grill, though very nearly finished, was ordered halted pending the permit's approval.

Since receiving approval from the University Administration in June 2000, the Cellar kitchen project has been delayed three times. In July

UNBSU President Charles Goguen said he hoped to be up and running by the time Frosh came in September but in August, Goguen revealed that the original layout plan for the kitchen had to be changed to comply with the Provincial Building Code with respect to food preparation, pushing the date to the middle of October. In September, Goguen speculated the doors would be open in early November. Goguen is no longer prepared to hazard an estimate for completion.

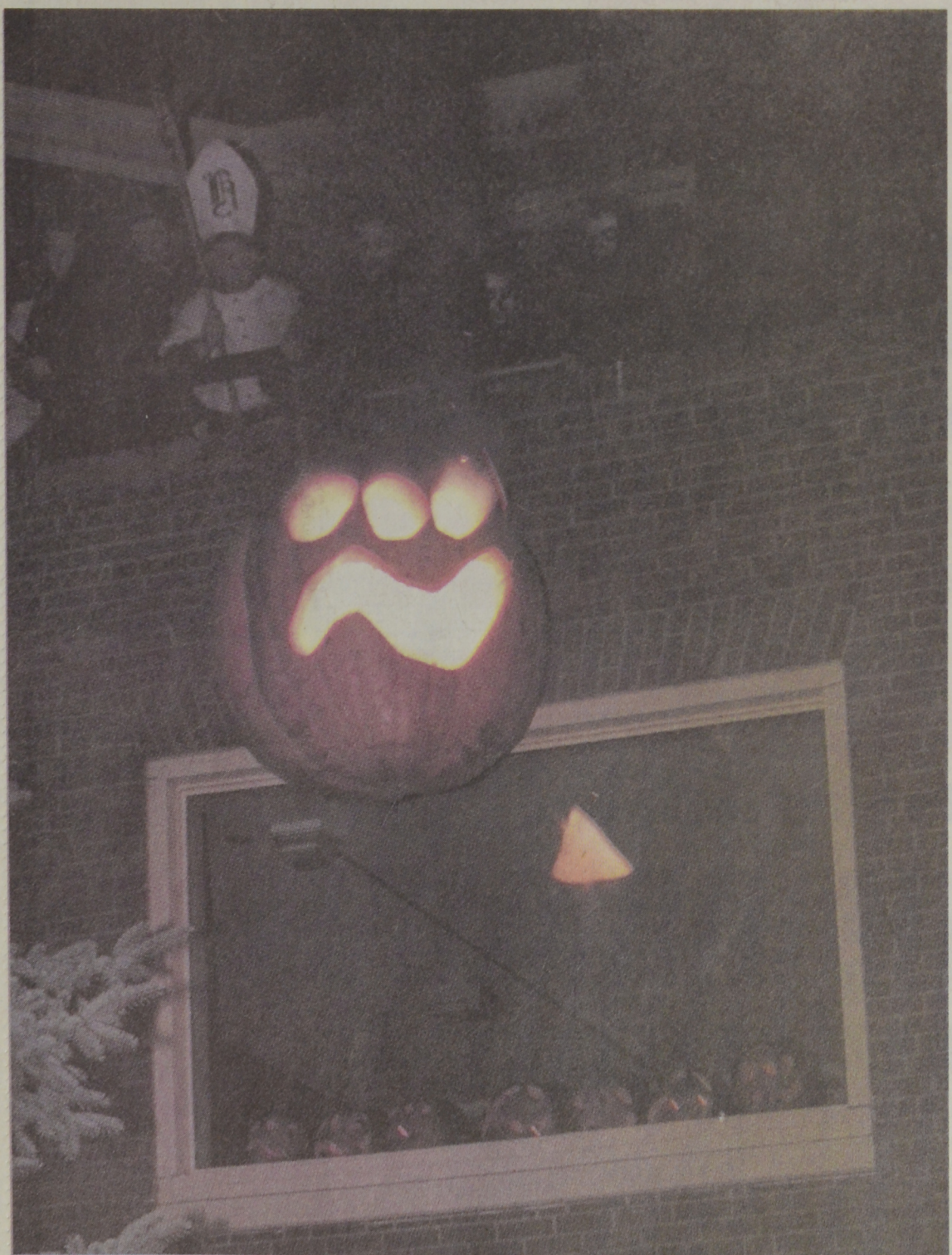
"I'd rather play the 649 than guess the date," said an obviously frustrated Goguen.

A certain amount of equipment was

prepared off-site, and is ready for installation as soon as the permit goes through.

Meanwhile, interviews for a new Kitchen Manager at The Cellar Bar & Grill have been completed and an announcement is expected soon. Goguen revealed there were three candidates, including one who is currently an employee.

There has also been some effort to clarify how the new full-time position will fit within the structure of the bar. So far, the premise has been to make it subordinate to the Cellar Manager, yet separate - in order that the Kitchen Manager not be an Assistant Manager of the whole bar.



Kevin Forneris Photo / The Brunswickan

At Midnight, October 31st, Harrison House held its Great Pumpkin Sacrifice.

Election Candidate Coverage - First in a series

Liberal Andy Scott

Gordon Loane
The Brunswickan

Liberal Party candidate, Andy Scott, plans to make access to post-secondary education a personal priority should he be re-elected.

Scott, currently the Member of Parliament for the Fredericton riding, is running in the November 27th federal election.

"I think it is important for people like myself to champion what I consider to be the critical challenge to the future of the country and that is to make sure that anyone in Canada that has the marks to go to college and university should be able to do so and not be afraid of a big debt," Scott said.

Appearing on the UNB Fredericton campus last week to speak to students attending a UNB Student Union sponsored barbeque, Scott said what is happening at the moment with student debt loads just can't continue. "What has happened is that loan amounts have simply gone up, the tuitions have gone up, the loan money chases tuitions and students go further and further in debt."

"We have got to figure out a way to get money directly to students and my sense is it's probably a new bursary program," he emphasized.

Scott said the alternative of providing more federal funding for universities through the Canada Health and Social Transfer (CHST) to the provinces for health and post-secondary education may not work for universities because all provincial governments are under enormous pressure to give that money to health care.

"It's been our practice to this date to try and get as much money in the hands of universities as we can through whatever instruments are available to do so and that has been mostly through research funding," Scott continued.

Scott pointed to the recent announcement that the federally funded National Research Council (NRC) would establish an E-commerce Centre on the UNB Fredericton campus.

"Not only will the new Centre



Dan Malone Photo / The Brunswickan

Liberal candidate Andy Scott wants to be MP again.

mean lots of jobs and new opportunities but it also says to the rest of the country that we can do research right here in Fredericton that will compete

incredible growth in the IT business community in Fredericton," he said.

In addition, Scott would like to bring together the economic side of all the new jobs and economic opportunity in Fredericton with the cultural and heritage side. He pledged support for culture and the arts and the rebuilding of the capital city's cultural and physical heritage.

Scott emphasized the upcoming federal election comes down to a choice between the Liberals and the Canadian Alliance Party. "I would make a very serious request to all students to take a look at those two choices. I think there isn't much question who is going to be better for students and for Atlantic Canada and the country," he said.

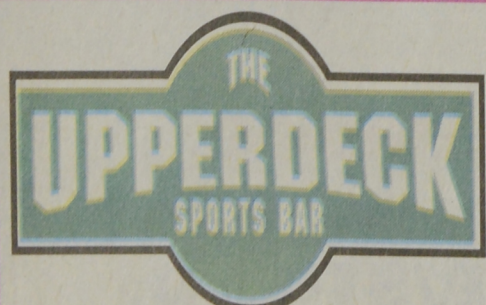
"Given the choice between us [the Liberal Party] and the Alliance, I don't think there is really much choice," Scott said.

"I think there isn't much question who is going to be better for students and for Atlantic Canada and the country." - Andy Scott

with research done anywhere in Canada. It's a wonderful opportunity for the whole Atlantic region to position ourselves where we should be," he said.

Should he win the Fredericton riding for the Liberal Party on November 27th, Scott said his priorities will include access to education and building on the opportunities provided by the NRC E-commerce Centre and other research chairs being funded by the federal government.

"We are on the verge of



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