



**Politicians
respond to rally at
legislature**

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**The Scapegoat
performed at
Battle of the
Bands**

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**Ball hockey
player Wesley
Wolfe-Participant
of the Week**

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Students demand tuition freeze

**Provincial government
introduces
2002-03 budget**

by Kora Stapelfeldt

More than 300 students from all over New Brunswick gathered at the Provincial legislature on Tuesday to demand more funding for post-secondary education.

Members of the legislature convened to read the budget for the 2002-03 year amidst the multitude of concerns being shouted through megaphones outside the assembly. Many were in the hopes of a tuition freeze and higher funding for universities province-wide.

The steps of the legislature were guarded heavily by the Fredericton Police in response to the crowd.

Corporal Carl Urquhart of the Patrol Response Division of the department who was in charge of the response force said he expected nine busloads of students in total to arrive at the legislature.

A member of the East Coast Anti-Racist Action (ARA) remarked, "we feel the police are here more to protect the people in [the legislature] than to

serve and protect the ones that the members of the legislature are supposed to represent."

"This is just part of my job," stated Urquhart. "I've got three kids in university so I don't mind the 'other side,'" he said in reference to the protestors.

Bernard Richard, the leader of the Liberal Party, has his own concerns regarding what he feels is a lack of student funding.

"We cannot address health care issues if we don't have people working, earning incomes and paying income tax." As far as the protesting was concerned, Richard believes "no one can better speak for them than themselves, they have every reason to be here."

In the past three years, the New Brunswick Government has increased funding for universities by 2% annually.

Matthew Carpenter of St. Thomas University, megaphone in hand, was there "because our education has become a commercial commodity." Carpenter viewed "the continuing trend in Canadian politics is to deregulate tuition and we're here to

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Heather Hickey/The Brunswickan

Hundreds of students from all over New Brunswick gathered outside the Provincial legislature on Tuesday in conjunction with the 2002-03 budget delivery.

Are profs making the grade?

by Samantha Robichaud

The only official outlet UNB students have to voice their opinions about their courses is with the campus-wide "Student Opinion Survey of Teachers" administered at the end of each term.

According to Michael Ircha, Associate VP Academic, the purpose of these evaluations is "to help the instructor get some feedback from the students in an organized way" as well as "to be used for the teaching component of the university's promotion and tenure process." One copy of the results goes to the department for the instructor's official file, one goes to the VP Academic and one goes to the professor for self-assessment.

Many students feel the evaluations are not put to good use by professors. As one student claimed, "I don't think they even look at them."

Ircha counters that professors take the surveys very seriously and the evaluations are put to good use. "Each year, untenured faculty undergo a review process and these are looked at

as part of the teaching component. Tenured faculty undergo these reviews every three years," said Ircha.

Dr. Joy Mighty, a coordinator at UNB's Teaching and Learning Centre, is linked indirectly to the opinion surveys because instructors unhappy with their results are encouraged to seek help from the Centre. Mighty admitted "I have had instructors sent here from their department chair" in order to improve their teaching. She hopes, however, that instructors will be self-motivated to ameliorate their teaching.

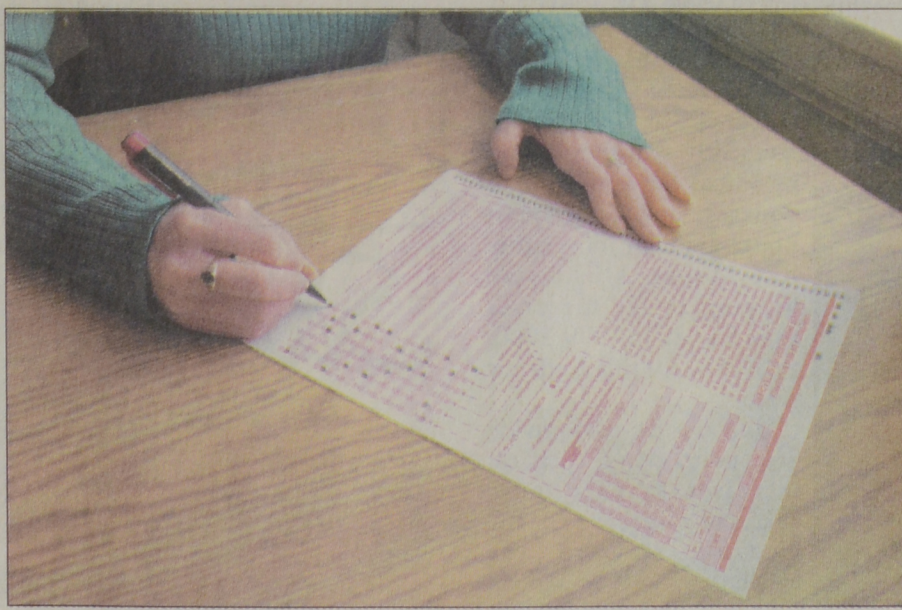
Rumors about long delays with the survey results are widespread. One student said "I heard that they don't even look at them for five years." In response to these rumors, Ircha said "we deal with 42,000 sheets of paper

in these surveys...between 1996 and 1999 when we moved into the new Datatel system, there was a period of about two or two and a half years when the surveys weren't published."

With regards to the promptness of results, the Registrar, David Hinton, said "our target is to have the survey results back in the hands of the faculty within the first weeks of the start of term," although he admits that in the past it has taken up to six months.

Ircha said the opinion surveys are part of the collective agreement between the teachers' union and the university, and as part of this agreement they are confidential.

"In order to make the results public we'd have to have the approval of the Association of UNB Teachers," said Ircha.



Mark McGinnis/The Brunswickan

The "Student Opinion Survey of Teachers" is handed out at the end of each term.

The Brunswickan Word of The Week:

**Querulous: 1. Habitually complaining.
2. Fretful, whining.**

-Webster's New Collegiate Dictionary

Rising tuition afflicts students nationwide

by Stephanie Brunet

The ever-increasing rates of university tuition are becoming a unifier for students nationwide, as more student struggle to find the funds necessary to continue their education.

The constant rise in tuition has been a major concern for university students, further compounded by the announcement of the 3-6% raise in total funding for post secondary education announced in Tuesday's provincial budget.

UNB, like other universities nationwide, has suffered endless tuition hikes over the last 10 years, seeing tuition rates raised almost \$2000 since 1991. The reality of tuition hikes is a nation wide concern; the Canadian Federation of Students says that tuition fees have risen over 126 percent in the last decade. Universities across Canada have organized national days of protest,

including the "day of action" held last month in response to tuition concerns.

University of New Brunswick's tuition has seen a jump of over 100 percent over the last ten years. A student in 1991 could have expected to pay only \$1,975 for a year at UNB, compared to the \$3,945 that students are currently paying. Five years ago, students were paying just over half of what they are now paying for university tuition.

Other students across Canada are experiencing equal increases, and are now, according to the Canadian Federation of Students, leaving university with debt loads of up to \$25,000. Stats Canada has quoted an average raise of 2.0% for the next year in university undergrad fees, double the average of only 10 years ago. Tuition is increasing nearly six times faster than the increase in inflation as measured by the consumer price index.

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QUOTE OF THE WEEK

A LOT HAS BEEN SAID ABOUT POLITICS; SOME OF IT COMPLIMENTARY, BUT MOST OF IT ACCURATE.

ERIC IDLE

CASA versus CFS

by David MacCoubrey

At the end of a decade of continual tuition hikes, is it time for the University of New Brunswick's Student Union to review the national lobby group of which it is a member?

There are two main student organizations in Canada: the Canadian Federation of Students (CFS) and Canadian Alliance of Student Associations (CASA).

The University of New Brunswick's Student Union decided to leave CFS in 1995, to become a founding member of CASA.

Since its inception, CASA has grown to a membership of 23 post secondary institutions representing over 300,000 students. CASA functions to lobby the government on student issues, such as tuition increases, interprovincial mobility of Canadian students

(economically and academically), and the abolishment of differential fees.

Other policies of CASA include the provincial disbursements of student loans, and an end to sales tax on text books. They also believe that any student who is academically qualified should be able to attend post secondary institutions despite financial difficulties.

CFS is the main student representative lobby group in the country. The organization was founded in 1981 and now has over 450,000 student members from 60 post-secondary schools. The main goal of the CFS is to have students united provincially and federally in a democratic system. The organization fights for such causes as tuition freezes, more government sponsorship of research and development, and changes

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TONIGHT



Happy Hour 2/1 shooter special from 11-12

Prizes (non-alcoholic) for those dressed as your favourite Bunny



**Thursday Afternoon
Draft Special
Open at 2**



For Members & Guests Only