

NEWS SHORTS

compiled by Graham Cox

Countries not part of WTO refused generic drugs

The government has introduced changes that allow generic drug companies to make patented drugs for economically developing countries. It has been raised by Doctors Without Borders that the changes only include AIDS treatments and should include medicines that are useful in combating diseases such as tuberculosis which is a main cause of death to AIDS patients.

Other concerns include indications that countries not part of the WTO will not have access to the new generics and the inclusion of the "Right of Refusal" which will reduce market competition between generic drug companies.

Change in legal status of Guantanamo inmates

This week saw the transfer of a Spanish citizen from the camp in Guantanamo to Spain. The prisoner was transferred just before the announcement of a change in the legal status of the "enemy combatants." Now the inmates will face a review of their status as enemies of the US once a year. The move was criticized immediately by human rights lawyers who have objected to the legal limbo the inmates are in, saying it is meaningless to have a review when the person in question has not been charged with a crime.

New fears of Haitian refugees

With the rise of violence during the latest political turmoil in Haiti there is concern over an increase in refugees escaping the country on boats.

The Dominican Republic has all but sealed its borders already and the US is looking to increase its presence in the waters around the country. International food agencies have reported that they are not able to get supplies to the populations near the conflict zones. A major part of the population in Haiti was facing a food crisis before the internal conflict arose making the situation that much worse.

Refugees that are intercepted will probably end up in camps run by international aid agencies in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.

Six labour violation complaints for BC

The National Union of Public and General Employees has launched two labour violation complaints against the British Columbia government to the UN's International Labour Organization. This brings the total number of complaints to six which is more than any other provincial government in Canada has received in a single term.

The ILO has already ruled against the BC Liberal Government's actions to limit workers rights in March 2003. The BC government has all but dismissed past ILO recommendations.

Summer cut in oil production, said OPEC

OPEC, the group that controls the production of some 40 per cent of the world's oil, has decided to cut oil production by 1.2 million barrels a day from April on.

This is a surprise to many consumers given that the price per barrel was seen to be on target for this year. The decrease in production also follows Shell's admission that they over estimated their reserves by a fifth, leading some to wonder about the effect of the rising cost for the large oil companies to keep production at the ever increasing pace.

With the low US dollar and the much lower than estimated returns from Iraq after the war, OPEC is having a difficult time balancing the production with the predicted decrease in consumption in the summer to keep the market stable.

ATTENTION READERS:

We're always looking for interesting stories to tell in the paper so if you or someone you know has had an interesting life experience, give us a call 447-3388 or drop us a line at b-news@unb.ca.

Elsie calls it quits

Saint John MP to spend more time with family

by David Shipley

One of Canada's most outspoken and colourful Members of Parliament is calling it quits.

Elsie Wayne, MP for Saint John and deputy leader of the Conservative Party, known across Canada simply as Elsie, announced Monday that she would be retiring from federal politics.

"It isn't an easy decision for me, particularly since I think we'll probably form the next government, and I would have been in cabinet," said Wayne at the Monday morning press conference.

She cited her desire to spend more time with her family.

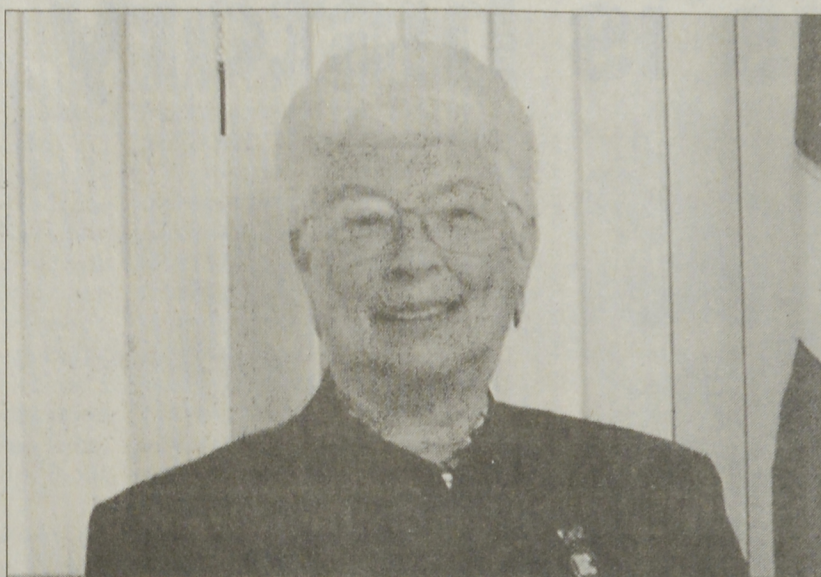
"You have no idea the sacrifices that are made by families of MP's," she said.

Wayne, 71, has served as the Member of Parliament for Saint John for the last 11 years. She plans to continue on as MP until the next election is called, which is expected to be either this spring or fall.

Elsie Wayne has been a feature of Saint John's municipal and federal politics for almost 30 years. She was first elected as a city councillor in 1977. She held that position until she ran for Mayor in 1983, when she became Saint John's first female mayor. Wayne was also the first Saint John mayor to be elected to four consecutive terms.

She first ran for federal politics in 1993 when she and Jean Charest were the only two Progressive Conservatives to be elected during the liberal sweep.

Mike McGraw, President of the



MP Elsie Wayne, 71, announced she will not run in the upcoming fall election.

Conservative Party Riding Association in Saint John said that Wayne was "an icon in this city, a champion for the people of Saint John and New Brunswick for close to 30 years."

Wayne has become well known over the last decade for her constant support of seniors and veterans issues. She was a vocal supporter of the Merchant Navy veteran's efforts to get recognition and compensation for their service.

She also became infamous for her choice of sequined sweaters when *The Hill Times* named her the Worst Dressed Female MP.

Over the last year Wayne has come under fire from for her criticism of same sex marriage. "If they are going to live together, they can go live together and shut up about it," said Wayne in May 2003, while speaking in the House about same sex marriage and gay rights parades.

Gay activists in Saint John had

filed a discrimination complaint against Elsie in August 2003 after she declined to meet with them to discuss same-sex marriage. It is not known as of press time whether they will proceed with the complaint now that she has decided to retire.

Mr. Bari's preliminary date set

Bari continued from Page 1

University of New Brunswick and worked at a local dry cleaning establishment.

The accused was Ms. Bari's estranged husband. The couple had been separated for about two years at the time of her death.

Police found Ms. Bari's body at her Regent Street apartment on July 22nd, after friends reported her missing.

Four of her friends, all UNB students, were in the courtroom Monday in a display of support for Ms. Bari. "We were her friends. We want to show our support for Shaila to the public."

One student said she would be graduating in April but added, "I am not going home; I am going to the preliminary hearing. I want to see this through to the end."



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BRUNS WORD OF THE WEEK:

circumlocution \sir-kum-lo-KYOO-shun\, noun:

The use of many words to express an idea that might be expressed by few; indirect or roundabout language; a periphrase.

General Elections

To vote online visit the Student Union website at:

<http://www.unbf.ca/unbsu/election/>

Candidate Names & Positions

Note: the number in brackets following the position title indicates the number of seats available for this position.

Student Union Positions

President (1)

- Fournier, Charles (Chuck)
- Johns, Steven
- LeBlanc, Greg
- Ouellette, Nicholas (Nick)

Vice President Executive (1)

- Matheson, Jeff
- Lockhart, Desmond

Vice President University Affairs (1)

- Brewer, Jeff
- Zhang, Wei

Vice President Student Services (1)

- Cole, Neil
- Manderson, Lynette

Vice President Finance (1)

- Baker, Adam

Arts Representative (5)

- Fontaine, Marieve
- Iezzi, Pamela
- Langille, Ben
- Maccomb, John Hubert
- MacDonald, Peter

Business Administration Representative (3)

- Ross, Laura

Computer Science Representative (1)

- Education Representative (2)

Engineering Representative (3)

- Perry, Sean
- Strong, Justin
- Velazquez, Rafael

Forestry Representative (1)

- Colden, Val

International Student Representative (1)

- Neogi, Souvik
- Ogana, Lydia

Kinesiology Representative (1)

- McCully, Matthew

Law Representative (1)

- Brown, Jordan
- Stoddart, Toby

Nursing Representative (1)

- Beckett, Matthew

Renaissance College Representative (1)

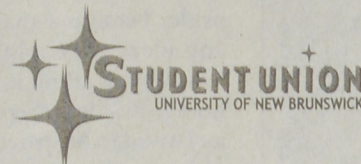
- El-Khoury, Youssef
- Shay, Raphael

Residence Student Representative (1)

- Science Representative (2)
- Johnson, Leona

Student at Large Representative (2)

- Cartwright, Alexis
- Powe, Erin
- Skinner, Lyle Matthew



Board of Governors Positions

Board of Governors (2)

- El-Khoury, Youssef
- Fournier, Charles (Chuck)
- Johns, Steven
- LeBlanc, Greg
- Ouellette, Nicholas (Nick)

University Senate Positions

Senate 1- year Seat (4)

- Brewer, Jeff
- Butler, David
- Chiasson, Ciana
- Matheson, Jeff
- Near, Anthony
- Zhang, Wei

Senate 2-year Seat (1)

- Mellish, David, R.
- Skinner, Lyle Matthew
- Tshomo, Sherub

Valedictorian Positions

Valedictorian Ceremony 'A'

- Moffatt, Eric

Valedictorian Ceremony 'B'

- Bradbury, Robert
- Earle, Pamela
- Hull, Meghan
- Jones, Laurie

Valedictorian Ceremony 'C'

- Mitchell, Michael D
- Harmon, John Paul
- Palmer, Erin

Voting Days Feb 24 - Feb 28

FOR ANY QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS ABOUT
THE ELECTION PLEASE E-MAIL: CRO@UNB.CA

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