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Stripper paid with SU funds

EDMONTON (CUP) — University of Alberta student union funds were used to pay a stripper who performed at a council party in April, says a former student executive.

"We were having our year-end (student council) changeover party and everything was going smoothly," said former vice-president academic Connie Uzwashyn.

The annual changeover party is open only to incoming and outgoing councillors and invited guests.

"Suddenly, I noticed the men at the party were disappearing. Somebody told me they were in SUB basement, so I ran down stairs to see what was happening," Uzwashyn said. "I barged into the room to find Bambi rubbing ointment all over herself."

Bambi, who will not give her real name, has acknowledged she performed a striptease at a function in the Students' Union Building Apr. 29. She confirmed she was paid \$130 cash by "the president or vice-president" of the student union after her performance.

"What really perturbed me," said Uzwashyn, "was that this stripper was paid for with SU funds."

Student union administrators could not produce a cheque requisition for the money used for the stripper, but a remittance stub was on file. The stub, which bears no names or signatures, indicates former vice-president internal

Scott Richardson received \$130 on Apr. 29 for "party expenses, re: changeover."

The student union finance manager said he signed the cheque on executive orders. Ryan Beebe said as finance manager, he is responsible for signing cheques and keeping books, not for making decisions about how the money is spent.

"If (the cheque) is signed by an exec member, I don't have any choice," Beebe said.

He said former president Mike Nickel provided the executive signature on the cheque to Richardson, but Nickel has refused to comment on the issue.

Last year's vice-president finance Rob Splane, says he

knew about the strip show at the time of the changeover party, but did not himself attend. However, Splane said he "was not aware of \$130 cheque voucher."

Current president Dave Oginski, who said he attended the strip performance while drunk, believes the stripper was paid by a collection taken by

Richardson after the event. "I assume that is why he took money from everyone there."

But finance manager Beebe said no money was paid back into union funds to compensate for the \$130 cheque.

Oginski gave no indication the student union will investigate what happened to the money or how the stripper was paid.

McMaster students no so dumb

By Mark Langton

HAMILTON (CUP) — About 300 McMaster University students who were told last month that they had failed a test of English competency, have been now told they actually passed.

The passing mark for the test was 29 per cent on a 80-question test. However, instructions from the testing committee given to markers said "29" is the passing mark, and did not specify 29 per cent.

Test committee chair Barbara Levy said programmers marked the test with 29 correct answers, or 36 per cent, as passes. The percentage of failing students is actually 27 per cent, and not the 43 per cent originally reported.

John Fox, a student council representative, said the discovery of the mistakes is "fishy".

"It's too convenient now because the university is getting backlash from the

students, parents, and definitely faculty members, and big media coverage," he said.

Mike Kukhta, student union president, said "The whole thing was rushed into. They needed more time to work out the details."

"Image the stress the students must have gone under. The university should be very apologetic," he said.

Students who actually passed have been notified by mail.

The competency test used this year tested only for grammar proficiency, a break from tests used in other years.

"Essay tests would be time consuming and expensive. The committee just doesn't have the resources," Levy said.

But Tracey Foster, chair of the student union's academic affairs committee, disputes the cost factor, and said a test without essay questions can't give a proper indication of a student's competency.

She said all universities using competency tests that were contacted by the student union use essay questions in their tests.

"None of those schools even

mentioned the costs associated with essay testing. They accepted they are testing writing skills, and will pay an expenses that comes up," Foster said.

Upset: Contraception

ANTIGONISH, N.S. (CUP) — Administrators at Saint Francis University are angry with the student newspaper for running a condom advertisement, though they aren't saying or doing anything about it.

Xaverian Weekly co-editor Sue Johnson said she warned there would be "trouble" if the paper ran the ad, and that she may have been called into president Gregory McKinnon's office.

However, Johnson said neither has come true. "It appears the whole thing has just blown over," she said.

"It's a Catholic school with a

lot of conservative values," said Johnson. "I guess they would get upset if ran any sort of birth control ad."

J.J. MacDonald, administration vice-president academic, said he was unable to give the university's position on the ad" and would not comment on his personal opinions of any birth control.

Johnson has heard of no student complaints about the ad, the headline of which reads "Birth control is a big responsibility. Fatherhood is even bigger."

Trainer suggested administrative
continued on page 2