

PRESIDENT DECLARES EMERGENCY RULE

vows to end “Reign of Chaos” in Hitchcock

THE GREEN ROOM – President James Huff declared emergency rule today, awarding himself a set of new sweeping powers he said were designed to end the “Reign of Chaos” about Hitchcock Hall.

“For too long, the forces of disorder have had their way while we have been powerless to stop them,” said Huff. “Well, no longer. I am pleased to announce to my fellow citizens that I am taking control of the situation personally.”

According to reports, near the end of last week's meeting, an unknown collaborator brought a motion to the floor to suspend the House Council. All the present members, expecting a motion to adjourn the current meeting, voted in favor of the motion before realizing what was said.

While Huff claimed that he was “never in favor” of suspending the Constitution, recent “disastrous events” made the move necessary.

“Recent events in the Kitchen Territory more than justify this use of my powers,” he said, referring to several reports of a separatist group based in or nearby the kitchen.

According to reports, this group hides behind proto-communist thinking and spreads fear and chaos among citizens of Hitchcock. Manifestos are littered on the tables and in the refrigerators, claiming that there is “no such thing as private property” and that “when the Proletariat controls the implements of food production, only then can we truly be free.”

In recent months, the number of anti-private-property raids by the separatists has increased sevenfold.

Huff also declared that he would use his emergency powers to resolve the ongoing border dispute between Sections Four and Three.

“Now is not the time for brother to take up arms against brother,” said Huff, noting that he had the “greatest confidence” that the crisis could be resolved “under the guiding hand of a strong central government.”

“I will bring this war-torn region seven years of peace,” he said.

Opponents of the move were skeptical of

Huff's justifications. Most spoke on condition of anonymity due to the possibility of political repercussions.

“Just look at what he's done since seizing control: he's removed all his opponents. Is that the work of a sane man?” asked one anti-Huff advocate.

When pressed for details, the anti-Huff advocate described a grisly scene, where charismatic members of opposing political factions were rounded up into a “Thunderdome” and forced to fight each other for Huff's amusement.

Huff denied the charges. “Thunderdome is a cherished part of Hitchcock tradition. It is sad that my opponents have abandoned the politics of hope and embraced the politics of cynicism,” he said.

The declaration of emergency rule has affected all sectors of the Hitchcock economy and of daily life.

According to reports, the current year's budget has a surplus of over five hundred dollars, but shoddy record-keeping during the recent upheaval casts doubt on those numbers. A member of the Party for Fiscal Responsibility stated that the report might have dangerously inflated the true amount of money in order to encourage “frivolous spending.”

Further, exports of t-shirts, Hitchcock's main commodity, have dropped to near-zero due to lack of organization. According to those familiar with Customs Ministry procedures, all of the main t-shirt producers failed to provide an accurate count of the number of t-shirts bound for abroad. As such, all t-shirts scheduled to be exported are instead under quarantine until the proper paperwork can be filed.

More troubling than the economic indicators, though, are recent reports of politically-motivated killings in the wake of Huff's consolidation of power. In addition to the Thunderdome allegations of certain fringe elements, serious political thinkers are concerned about the disappearance of Representative Margot Spellman.

Spellman has not attended an official House

Meeting in several weeks, according to publicly-available attendance records. Investigators claim that there is “no evidence” of any wrongdoing. They would not comment on a reporter’s hypothesis that her disappearance was related to her vocal anti-Huff stance.

Another victim of the consolidation of power was Max Falkowitz. Falkowitz, leader of a violent group of anti-Bartlett nationalists, was found dead last Tuesday. [See article below.]

Minimizing concerns, Huff claimed that his power-grab was “more than justified” by the current climate.

“Problems are everywhere you look,” said Huff. “Political problems; cultural problems. Why, just this past Sunday I myself walked through the Rec Room and saw a group of slack-jawed youths watching a film called ‘Ice Princess.’

“What kind of film claims that the variable ‘m’ stands for ‘momentum’? What kind of message does that teach our impressionable youth?”

Huff added that the correct abbreviation for momentum is ‘p’, which comes from the French ‘puissance.’

BELOVED SECOND-YEAR DIES BECAUSE PEOPLE TOO LAZY TO FILL OUT BARLETT COMMENT CARDS

THE GREEN ROOM – Government officials confirmed today that the human remains found in Bartlett quad last Tuesday were in fact those of Section One resident Maxwell Falkowitz.

Falkowitz, the charismatic leader of the Bartlett Liberation Front, was apparently killed during a confrontation with Bartlett representatives.

The cause of death was confirmed to be massive internal trauma caused by excess consumption of vegan Bartlett food.

“It was so sad: Falko thought he had all this popular support,” said one BLF member, using the Front’s accepted nomenclature for Falkowitz. “It’s too bad the Bartlett folks didn’t see it that way. They figured they could get away with this.”

Clashes between the BLF and Bartlett Dining Commons representatives had grown more common in recent weeks, but this past Tuesday’s is

the first time that the skirmishes have devolved into all-out gang violence.

According to reports, Falkowitz led a small group of anti-Bartlett activists to confront the “enemies of the people and of taste.” Hostile words were exchanged on Bartlett quad.

In the end, according to one eyewitness, the members of Bartlett were emboldened by the perceived lack of support for the BLF. Scattering Falkowitz’s supporters, they grabbed him and forcibly removed him to an unknown location.

The coroner’s report suggests that, while captive, Falkowitz was forced to eat over one thousand percent of the daily recommended amount of vegan food.

“Vegan food is a carefully-controlled substance,” said one government medical official. “It’s surprising Falkowitz survived as long as he did, really. No one’s body ought to be able take that amount of punishment and keep going.”

In light of this most recent vegan-based death, several propositions were placed before the legislative committees, including a proposal to make bacon a mandatory ingredient of every dish served in the country.

The House Council was dissolved before it had a chance to act on the proposal, but proponents are now calling on President James Huff to enact the changes.