



Mugwump
By BEV HILLS Journal

Welcome to the show that never ends...it seems I've inherited this column for an unspecified period of time, so hope to make the best of it.

Did you know that this province is considered a depressed area in economical terms? We have an uncannily high rate of corporate-business bankruptcy it seems, our unemployment statistics reflect a higher than national average, [and certain circles consider the statistics manipulated, lower-than-real blurbs of insane optimism], and Ottawa doesn't seem to be too generous with relief funding.

Our sagacious prime minister made an interesting comment when he said "I think that for the time being we have gone far enough, fast enough, and that is why a large part of my message as a politician is to say: we have to put an end to rising expectations". The philosophical applications were literally directed toward national expectations but perhaps his message could be heeded within the bounds of this fair province. Much controversy in the news these days centres around two diametric schools of belief; development versus not necessarily non-development but controlled, organized long-term rational development with humane considerations pre-empting all economic considerations. Can the government in effect through their economic decisions dictate our life styles, standards and models of social and cultural activity? It's never really been unique as all of North America has at one time or is continuing to be subjected to this central theme. Many concede that major social problems are caused or at least accurately reflected by these influences. Africa is ineffectively wrestling with this developmental spectre. The presumably caring nations of the world, encompassing all major political ideologies vie for attention in the third world; ultimately they rape and exploit resources, people and as much else as they can get away with. The saddest aspect is the slow strangling destruction of indigenous cultural life styles.

Did you know that a difference of a few one hundred thousands of a centimetre in wave lengths makes the difference between visibility and invisibility?

A crisis point has been reached in the development of newspapers, especially within this province - and hitting closer to home - our humble journal. The once information-oriented tabloids filling an obvious communications void have gradually evolved into glad-rags motivated primarily by potential advertising dollars. Not all have certainly, but the perspective is grim in this geo-political area. This paper is a unique establishment but does it seem to you that we have soft-pedalled our way through each weekly edition? Surely everyone on this campus has nice, or refreshing, or traumatic, or nasty, or ugly, or bombastic, or degrading incidents of bizarre, brazen and even good experiences. Far too infrequently are these reported. Here we sit at a hub of an enormous wealth of information, yet inertia is a prime characteristic of what we really are. We can, however, do almost anything we want to; yet time, energy and access are very real limiting factors, so we need help-desperately. Just for fun, when you feel unjustly oppressed by a condition, screwed by some bureaucracy, overjoyed by something unexpectedly nice, facing a stone wall creating nightmarish hassles for you and you can't do anything about it but feel something should be done than why not trot down to The Brunswickan office for a chat. Who knows? One suggestion...consumerism. An interesting area maybe? Hypothetically, if people generated valid complaints for us of any nature they could be tracked down, discussed, followed-up and if change or some resolution was warranted the attempt could be made through open public channels. The scope and direction of change is what you want it to be...we can be responsible.

If Saint John is considered the asshole of the universe I would love to know what Fredericton really is!

We are slowly learning of increased costs in many areas and are now slowly wondering where the line will be drawn. On the February 2 SRC election ballots a referendum will be staged wondering if SRC fees should rise from \$45 to \$55 per annum. An informal poll indicates that most students to date are dead against any fee increase, especially in light of other anticipated increases in costs.

Some students can be expected to become even more discouraged and make a point of not attending university because of rising costs. Some students wonder when the next increase for books will be announced. Some students wonder where it will stop.

Post-script. I do not usually write in long unwieldy rambling sentences but for this column I'm still experimenting.

Writer comments on SAGA

Dear Herb,

I would like to make a short comment on the food service in the Student Union Building. The coffee shop specializes in basicly junk food which is either gresy or sweet, not wholesome. To add to this the food is often poorly prepared or stale. Often in the evenings or during the weekend there will only be one or two people staffing the coffeeshop, thus a person may sometimes wait fifteen or twenty minutes before receiving his order.

The cafeteria is not much better. The meals served have little nutrition associated with them and are usually greasy. Often the servings are not large enough to fill a person, yet are priced high, considering the quality. Again they are sometimes poorly prepared and in some cases inetable. The cutbacks in cafeteria service force students to eat even poorer meals at the coffee shop. I would like to suggest that Saga foods should design their meals and snacks around more wholesome foods with these foods being

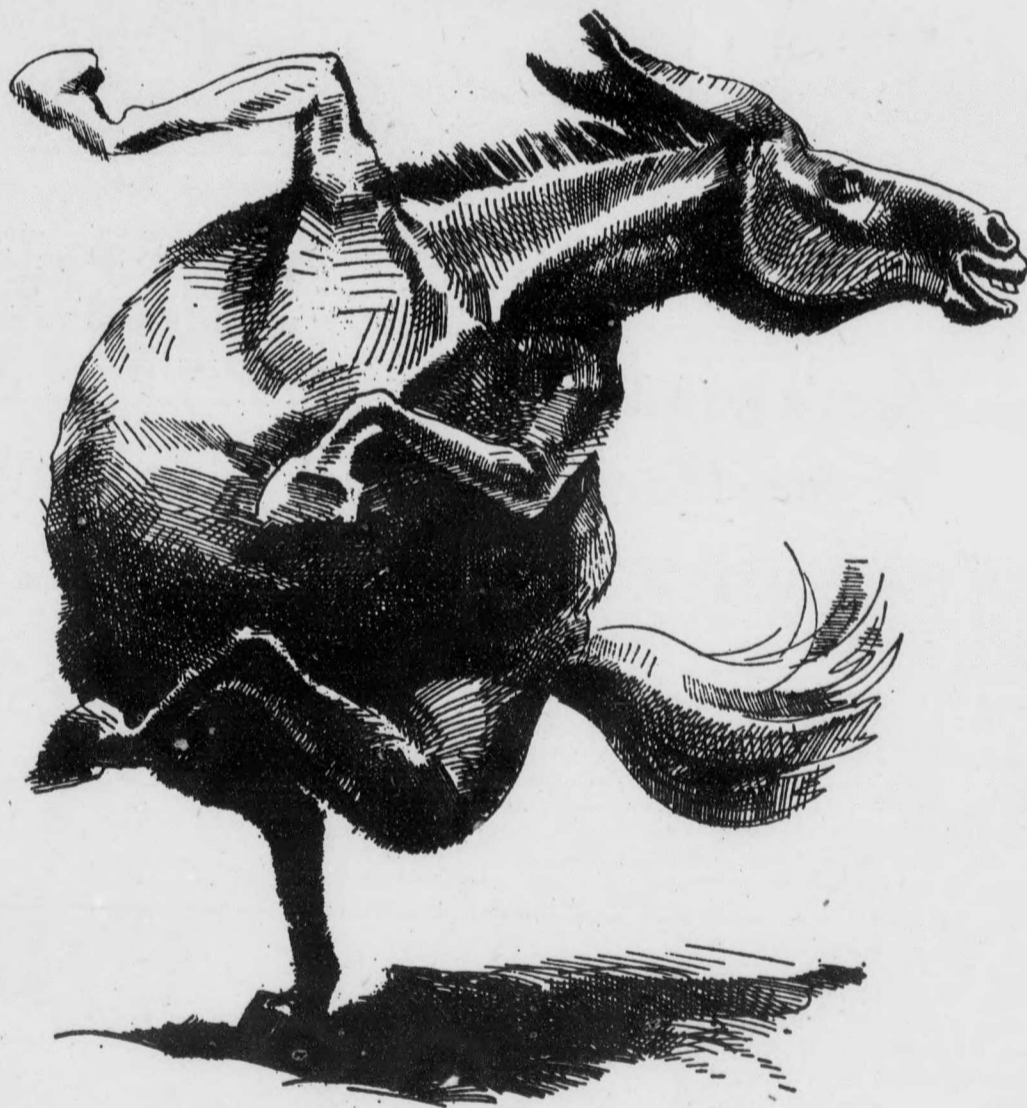
priced cheaper than the junk foods.

Herb your food and services are bad! The student who eats regularly over the period of a school year at the SUB is not getting the proper nutrition. I hope you will take some measures to correct the present situation. If not I think another food company should be given a chance to do a better job.

Yours truly,
Geoffrey F. Gammon

Don't be an ass...

WRITE!!



'The university is composed of faculty, students, books and ideas. In the literal sense, the admnistration is merely there to make sure the sidewalks are kept clean...'

--Berkeley Free Student Movement