

Brunswick condemns SRC interference

In the aftermath of the great 'Cover Controversy', The Brunswickan finds itself confronted with a motion made at last Monday's council meeting. After a prolonged and heated debate the following motion was passed 14-1-1:

MOTION 11 BE IT RESOLVED THAT the SRC finds the front page of the January 21st 1977 Brunswickan an example of unethical, dishonorable journalism and, without initiating support for any particular candidate in the upcoming elections, feels that The Brunswickan staff should apologize to Steve Whalen in its next issue.

A statement has been made by The Brunswickan on the 'Sound-Off' page as to the meaning and intent of the cover. The SRC motion, however has raised a much more far-reaching and

serious implication.

During the debate, several prominent councillors said that they 'would appreciate it if The Brunswickan kept its editorial comment on the editorial page.'

This week's cover shows the result. This official action on the part of the SRC is absolutely unprecedented. If The Brunswickan were to comply with such an order from Council on a matter of editorial policy it would be a very dangerous precedent indeed.

Although the Student Union is the publisher of The Brunswickan, it has always enjoyed complete editorial freedom. Surely the SRC has no right to expect such a statement to be 'adhered to'. The relationship between the SRC and The Brunswickan is akin to that between the CBC and the federal government (except that CBC is incorporated).

The SRC acting to call upon The Brunswickan to do anything

respective of policy is like the federal government telling the 'Fifth Estate' TV program to apologize to McCain Ltd. for its 'Citizen McCain' show.

As if this latter attitude of Council is not going far enough, the following extract from the proposed Student Union regulations shows how far they are willing to go.

S.6 The Editor-in-Chief may only be dismissed for demonstrated incompetence by a specific motion to that effect agreed to by a two-thirds motion by Council.

At first reading this may look rather innocent, being worded 'may only' but if one looks at past regulations, you would find that the SRC has NEVER had this power. If the foregoing is read with a critical eye, it reads that only the SRC has that power to

dismiss the Editor-in-Chief and not the staff.

This is a violation of the democratic control Brunswickan editors by the staff as specified by the existing Brunswickan constitution (also passed by the SRC). 'Demonstrated incompetence' can easily be read by Council in a moment of anger as "we do not like you".

The Brunswickan will not stand idly by while campus media (for the CHSR regulation is the same for the Director for CHSR) is under attack. We call on all students to make known to their councillors that the sections of The Brunswickan and CHSR regulations dealing with removal of officers must not pass Coupled with the hostile attitude towards The Brunswickan by the vast majority of Council, the door is left wide open to censorship.

Fancy posters doth not a leader make

Judging from the number of letters to the editor this week, the cover of the last issue of The Brunswickan was somewhat controversial. An editors' note in this week's sound-off section gives all of the explanation that is necessary and points out that the cover was not an attack on the individual concerned.

There are too many council members who forget that they are elected by the students and are responsible directly to them. Persons who are in the higher offices of the SRC ie. the president and vice-presidents often forget that they should be providing us, the students, with leadership.

The outgoing president, Jim Smith, tried valiantly at first to give us that leadership but eventually the task proved greater than the man and nothing was accomplished concerning the important issues that are facing all students, fee increases for example.

The Brunswickan feels that some of the candidates for office of president, will not provide the leadership that is so essential at

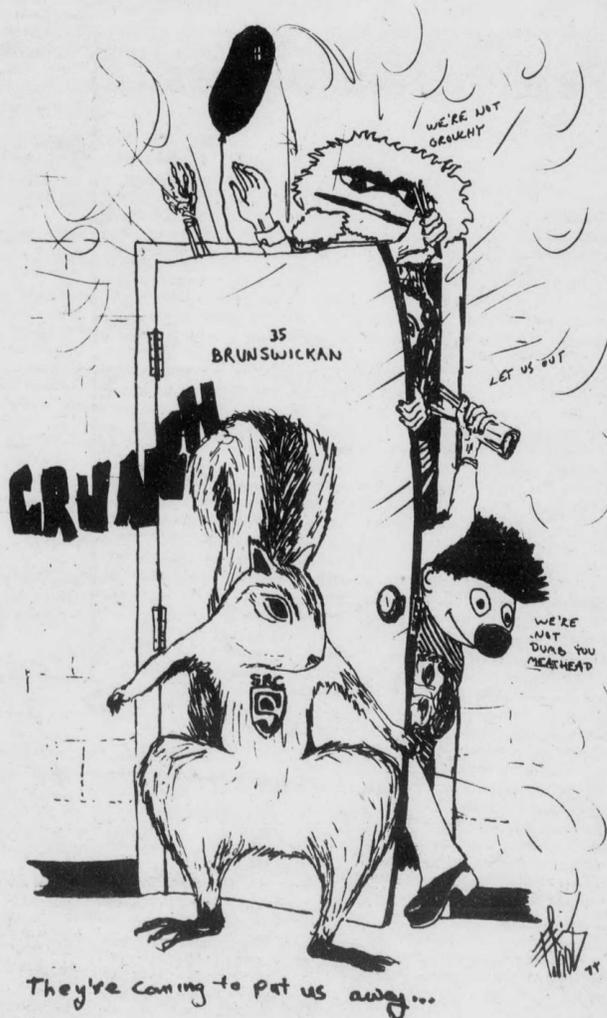
this time when the administration is very seriously considering a tuition increase that would have the effect of causing many present students to discontinue their studies and turning away many prospective newcomers to "these hallowed halls."

Jim Smith was elected to office on the virtue of an expensive and effective poster campaign. Attempts are being made to follow in Jim's footsteps with the same type of campaign.

Some posters proclaim heavy involvement in student activities but do not explain what these activities actually mean. There is a great danger in electing to office an unknown quantity.

The Brunswickan is tired of having people crawl out of the woodwork at election time only to be elected because they were able to solicit more money than the other, at least as well if not better qualified, candidates.

Therefore The Brunswickan urges you, the electorate, to consider carefully what the candidates have to offer and elect a president and council on what they have to offer, not on their pretty posters.



sound-off Front Page

Editor's Note: There seems to be some confusion as to the purpose of last week's cover from various quarters.

It was not a personal attack on any particular candidate. It was a satirical comment on a style of campaign that was regarded as poor taste, if not blasphemous by many people as well as being rather removed from any political relevance.

Against...

Dear Editor:

I find your January, 21st cover disgusting. This is a democratic country and anyone is entitled to run for office with their own views, and it is up to the voters to accept or reject their view according to their individual conscience. If The Brunswickan according to its Editor-in-Chief "unbiased", I would hate to see actual bias. If The Brunswickan going to shoot down a candidate, it should shoot down three, if it is to be "unbiased" although three wrongs don't make a right, and such "satire" has no place on the cover.

Harry Brodie
Peter Fullerton
Ross Halcovitch
Doug Steeves
Judy Bunting

Dear Editor:

The last issue of the Brunswickan ran a cover which caused me to reread a campaign poster. The cover laughed... then I thought... then I detested. Now, I'm trying to understand. Why would anyone maliciously attack and slander without any apparent just cause? It is sad that free speech and freedom of the press are used in this manner. I must be even sadder for the campaigner; I feel truly sorry that has happened to him.

I like the Brunswickan but it has committed a moral wrong...

"Our paper, right or wrong. When right, to be kept right; when wrong, to be put right." I hope the Brunswickan will correct this (accidental?) injustice.

Sincerely,
Paul Sidney

Dear Editor:

I feel that your cover of January 21st is worthy of a few comments.

To begin with I would like to quote part of your editorial entitled, Apathy here to stay, November 12, 1976, "For the past two months, The Brunswickan has made some efforts to battle what we all know as 'apathy'. We are sure that the readership has witnessed a lot of time and space in The Brunswickan devoted to the cause of killing this dreaded beast."