

Bathroom language offensive-tsk tsk Brunz

Dear Editor:

I have just leafed through the pages of the Brunswickan of October 28, 1977, and have read your editorial complaint that students who are not willing to participate in different events sponsored by SRC, should not complain.

You have cited four specific events in which the students have not shown enough interest: (1) A renowned band attracted 222 persons filling only half the ballroom, as a result SRC lost 400 dollars. (2) Only 18 persons opted to go for a very inexpensive bus ride to Mount Allison for a football game. (3) Only 26 percent of the students voted in the SRC elections. (4) Only 12 persons (including a girl) entered into a beard growing contest. You lament that there are not enough students who are willing to work on senate subcommittees, and the editorial ends with the following:

"In fact the only thing people really enjoy doing around this campus is complaining. Every week we have some concerned soul who comes in and tells us how to improve this rag. Granted we need improvement, but we aren't setting any records for staff overflows either. So every week we ask this concerned soul to come in and help us out. 'Oh no, I'm a student and I don't have time' is the usual reply. Well... all of us up here are students too and we don't have time either. But we're here. If we had some help, the time drain would not be so great on individuals."

"The moral of this is; if you don't think you're getting your money's worth on this campus, look c yourself. How active are you? If you are not actively supporting the things that do happen around here, then don't complain."

At this point I would like to mention that I am a very infrequent reader of the Brunswickan; I do not know exactly what student complaints you are referring to, and I am not a student in the formal sense. However, I am in close contact with some students as a member of the faculty in the Department of Mathematics, and I have great sympathy for those who say "I'm a student, I don't have time". And I would therefore like to say a few words in their defence. As for myself, my ignorance is growing faster than my knowledge, partly because of lack of time.

First of all, let me say that I admire those students who can maintain good scholarly standing and also do a very time consuming job of a newspaper man or woman. I believe such students are in minority and you should not be disappointed to find that the majority of the students cannot cope with dual roles.

A student taking only 5 courses meeting three hours per week has to sit in a class room for 15 hours, and requires approximately an extra 30 hours to study at home or in the library. If you add two 3-hour labs per week, the total number of hours comes to 51. There is time lost between classes. This is a kind of a minimum. Many students are taking 6-7 courses and 70 hours is not an unreasonable amount of time they require per week. That averages to 10 hours per day including Sunday! Then they have to somehow refresh their brains as they hop from subject to subject.

Each professor tends to assume that the student eats and sleeps with his particular subject, which is obviously not true. As against the distant past (10-20 years ago!) many students have responsibilities associated with married life, even though they

may not be formally married. Sex gratification which was by and large kept in abeyance in the past, now demands students' time and energies, physical and emotional.

I am thinking of those students who are serious about their studies, and as you put, want their "money's worth". I cannot justify the attitude of those who neither attend ballroom performances, beer parlors, or football games, nor show up in classes, laboratories, or do their assignments. Perhaps they are here only to help the University get its Government grants and thus insure its continued existence.

I have some philosophical disagreement with the present concept of a university and who should or should not be at a university. This letter will become too long if I were to dwell on it. I did make some comments in a letter published in the Brunswickan on February 28, 1975. Here I shall confine myself to the following remarks which I hope will be helpful.

If you are concerned about student participation in any activity, no matter how unexciting or even useless, take a hint from the solution that the University has found at the faculty level. Once upon a time, very few faculty members were interested in serving on administrative committees. Now there is never a committee — senate, faculty or departmental — which is not overflowing with people willing to 'serve'. Secret: Committee work can be considered as "university service", and can be used as a basis for promotion to higher academic ranks!

If you can insure that a student can get a course credit or a better grade by serving on the staff of the Brunswickan, or in SRC or the Senate, you will be surprised to see the amount of interest some

students will show. The Brunswickan could become the envy of New York Times, or Chicago Tribune, in the number of pages or in weight, and SRC or the Senate will be hard put to find problems for the volunteers to resolve.

On the other hand, if you want to improve the quality of the Brunswickan, I believe you are short of the right kind of help. Perhaps our English Department can assist in improving the grammar or the uncalled for use of the bathroom language.

I conceive of a student newspaper, not as a competition or a substitute for the commercial daily newspaper, or a weekly

magazine, rather a forum for intellectual and social interaction for those who would presumably lead the society in the future and

shape the life of tomorrow. I think that even an eight page paper could accomplish that 24 page

task admirably, and reduce the need for time, money and physical resources that you seem to require now.

Sincerely yours,
A Matin Yagzan

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Arguments on SUB staff

Dear Editor:

I read with great interest the replies of Howard Goldberg and Don Ouellette to my letter to the editor found in the October 21st issue of the Bruns. In this letter, you will recall, I made a case for allowing the use of volunteers at activities which used the SUB Ballroom. It was my view that substantial financial benefit could accrue to both the SUB and students organizations if student volunteers replaced SUB staff.

I anticipated that the arguments taken by Goldberg and Ouellette would be used in defense of the present SUB policy and I must admit that they did a good job in stating their case. Their point is well taken: it is hard to get conscientious volunteers to work at campus activities. I won't deny that fact. However, I don't think that their arguments invalidate my case: just because something is hard, that doesn't mean you shouldn't try to do it. It is my contention that every user of the SUB ballroom should have the option of either using SUB personnel or volunteer workers. If a group can find conscientious volunteers it should be allowed to use them.

A second point I wish to make is that students won't act responsibly until they are given a chance. If you treat people like children they will act like children and they'll

need babysitters. I say students should be given a chance to do a few things for themselves, too much is out of our hands at the present time.

Now I realize that Howard Goldberg and the SUB Board of Directors cannot allow students to run roughshod over the SUB — repair costs are high enough as it is. Obviously, they have to protect the interests of the SUB (which, after all, are our interests too). However their way of control is not the only way of protecting the SUB or even the best way. For example a 50-50 mixture of SUB staff and volunteers would insure adequate supervision with substantial monetary savings to students. Another means of control would be a requirement for a damage deposit of, let us say, \$250 from all groups using volunteer workers in the SUB. The damage deposit idea is familiar to many off-campus students, most of whom act responsibly enough to get their deposit back. I agree with your concerns, do you agree with my proposals?

Mr. Ouellette was correct in his analysis of the difficulties in finding conscientious volunteers, pointing out that it is very difficult to discipline irresponsible volunteers, who after all are working for free. I believe that even this problem could be overcome. The two systems I mentioned above

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Business

ATTENTION!

Captain BBA has uncovered a vicious plot against Business students (and other suckers innocently labeled Business Week). The executive must have been mainlining Aqua-Velva if he thinks anyone will be taken in by this one!

Tuesday they plan to rot your mind with a Smoker designed to make the Marquis de Sade drool so much N.B. Power wouldn't pass up putting a hydro-electric dam in his mouth! Meanwhile, all the prospective Helen Gurly Browns will be whipping themselves into an orgasmic frenzy at the Wine and Cheese.

On Wednesday ... well Attill the Hun would pack all his Attill juniors off to bed before letting

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