

26 editorial

BY MARK MORGAN

Out to pasture

Moo.

Thank you for milking me hard university. You can grope my teats until they are dry and raw so long as you provide shade for me in the pasture.

What can I say or write, I feel like a cow—a cash cow. Soon all students will feel bovine in nature. Our very existence will be to ensure our milkers, the University of New Brunswick's Administration, will be fat on our "rich" milk.

Do they really need this nourishment?

Advanced Education and Labour Minister Roland McIntyre was pretty sure that universities did not need our extra milk in spite of them taking millions of dollars in cuts to their programs.

McIntyre stood before the "Man that is Frank" and the Legislature and said unto them,

"In the past we put out clear expectations and tuition caps, but we don't believe universities will simply pass the cuts unto the students, so we won't this year."

Yes Alanis Morissette, it is ironic. Don't you think?

It is ironic that an esteemed learning institution such as the University of New Brunswick would make education difficult to possess or afford. But once again the overachieving UNB Administration has exceeded my expectations.

The University of New Brunswick's Board of Governors (BOG) met last Thursday to raise your tuition next year. Of course, the BOG met to do more than specifically raise tuition, but they did a good job of it though.

My education at this university has taught me that a balanced budget does not necessarily mean a fair budget. How is this for an illustration?

Vice-President of Finance James O'Sullivan has astutely calculated that UNB is taking approximately 2 million dollars in cuts from the provincial government. In order to offset its shortfall, students are being made to bear the financial brunt. Oh, by the way, when you do the math, the university gets a little more than 2 million dollars less from the government but an almost 300 dollar increase in 7000 students' tuition is coincidentally about 2 million dollars, and then some. Of course this might be all coincidental and idle talk on my part. But if I am wrong, it is because my university education has let me down and my own astuteness lacks development.

The Administration will tell you "times are tough." But who knows better than a university student. Come April our funds are dry, our brains are racked about exams, our backs are broke from moving, our vision is set on the summer and our only solace rests in the fact that next year will be better. But now, many might not have that solace.

How does UNB or any university justify raising tuition for students when they can not afford to raise the standards of students' education? For instance, UNB has enticed several well qualified and liked professors to take early retirements without replacing them. There are many Teaching Assistants and instructors, but without a long history of academic achievements or experience, their advice is limited. This tells me the number of professors to students ratio is decreasing and student are not getting the individualized help they need, therefore undermining the value of their degree.

I believe this institution is not about bettering students' education anymore. Facts and figures and maintaining the status quo are the only things that matter to the Administration now and this balanced budget is one of those examples.

The good news is that your student loans will probably increase to meet the new tuition. The bad news is that you will have more to pay back.

Where is the leadership in this university? According to *The Brunswickan's* sources, the only time you see President Armstrong is when someone is handing him a cheque for the Venture Campaign, or he's out practicing his swing on the golf course.

However, I must commend the student representatives to UNB's Board of Governors Kelly Lamrock and Jeff Clark. Both have been outspoken against the raise. It is not often these two gentlemen and I see eye-to-eye on a matter but this is one example for which we do.

The raise in tuition is extortion, plain and simple. We have the Board of Governors and the Administration to thank for that.

Lucky for us though, all those would-be pats on the back the Administration gave itself concerning its balanced budget, means its hands will be warm when it goes to milk us this fall.

Brunswickan Alumni Awards given

The Alumni Chapter of *The Brunswickan* recognized several members of the paper at its annual awards presentation ceremony.

Neil Duxbury was awarded *Editor of the Year* in recognition of his outstanding term as Managing Editor and his contributions to the Sports section after the resignation of the Sports Editor in October. Duxbury also gained the award for *Sports Writer and Sports Story of the Year*.

Gordon Loane took both *News Writer and News Article of the Year* for "Shake-up at Neill House" from Issue #16.

Michael Edwards, Entertainment Editor, won *Entertainment Writer and Entertainment Article of the Year*.

Co-News Editor Cynthia Kirkby was awarded *Rookie of the Year*. This award is made to the first-year staff member who has contributed a freshness to the paper.

Co-News Editor Joe FitzPatrick got *Keener of the Year*. The award recognizes contributions to the paper which are above and beyond the normal call of duty.

In addition to the awards from the Alumni Chapter, there were several special awards made by *The Brunswickan* staff.

Cool guy of the Year went to Peter J. Cullen who has contributed to every section of the paper while balancing his academics.

Typesetter Extraordinaire was awarded to Dawn Moorcroft.

The Heavy Pedal Award went to Mark Bray. He allegedly set a land-speed record for the route from Fredericton to Caraquet, but the Boys in Blue were caught unawares.

The Mr. Stress / Mr. Pinchbit Award went to Managing Editor/Sports Editor Neil Duxbury.

A very special award was made this year to recognize the most annoying, yet humorous staff member. As such, the new award, dubbed *Trish Davidson's Fucker of the Year* was given to Michael Edwards in a close race with Editor-in-Chief Mark Morgan. The award was named in memory of this year's outspoken Student Union Vice-President (Student Services).

Special Note: Editor-in-Chief, father-to-be Mark Morgan was presented with a knit sweater for his child-to-be. The sweater, which has the words "Baby Brunisie" stitched on the back, was conceptualized by Cynthia Kirkby. Morgan was visibly touched, and thanked this year's staff.

Brunswickan News

Blood n' Thunder



Inside the house everyone is talking about

Neill resident tells his story

I know people are starting to get sick and tired of the whole tongue-lashing of Neill House and the Dean of Residence, so I thought the truth should be told. I waited for the last *Brun* to come out so people could know the truth. As a former member of Neill House and a past President, I witnessed most of the happenings throughout the year and what it was like to live at Neill.

It has been a great pleasure to live in Neill House. I feel that I have made lifelong friends there and have grown as a person. I came as a scared 17 year old student and away from home for the first time. I was welcomed to Neill by people I had not seen before and continued to live there for four years. For the past three years I loved to live at Neill, but something made me leave. I was not evicted from residence. I left because Neill, as I know it does not exist any more.

As the President of Neill during frosh week, I met Jon Craighead and Jeff Wedge. I thought of them as nice guys willing to help students any way possible, but my opinion changed. The orientation committee was accused of threatening frosh to do things that were degrading, which were later found to be false. We were told that if these accusations were true, then we would face disciplinary action. After finding that these accusations were false, we received no apology from Wedge or Craighead. After this incident Neill House was being watched.

Everybody knows about the firing of proctors, the four members being evicted, and the House Committee being disbanded. What I want to talk about is the life living under these people! Life under Jon and Jeff has been a "living hell." I had many meetings with both, and after these meetings it seems that it was total frustration. I could not talk to these people because it was their way or nothing. Wedge tells people one thing and Craighead the other (i.e. Moosemilk party). Wedge talks about people behind their backs (i.e. Talking about why I should have been President and Brad Coughlin should have not), and Wedge's actions for many things shows his lack of ability as a Don. Many people do not know that he has taken residents of Neill to bars and getting them so drunk that they vomit from intoxication and this has happened more than once. During frosh week, he asked me to tell the freshman if they wanted to impress the upperclassmen they could try to get the Don—that being Wedge—laid by a member of another residence. If someone would look into his position as a Don, I would bet they would find things they probably would not like to find. I can not imagine parents who are sending their kids to University to hear things like this.

It is true and I won't lie. The proctors did drink on the job and we did drink out of pails. But to fire two outstanding proctors that had no fines or disciplinary action towards them previously, both students were on the Dean's List and members of the house that everybody looked up to, to evict four residents that did nothing that twenty five others did that night including myself did, to evict Mr. Shane Betts for expressing his "freedom of speech" after Craighead got into his face and telling the four that they have three hours to get out with no place to go while there are people in residence being caught with drugs and given all ugly incident does not happen again. Craighead has a personal vendetta against Neill and Wedge is too busy kissing Craighead's bum to stop and support the members he lives with, the Knights of Neill. PLEASE SOMEONE HELP THEM BEFORE A GREAT HOUSE AND RESIDENCE COMMUNITY IS GONE FOREVER.

Yours truly,
Scott Geikie
Ex-member of Neill House

...he asked me to tell the freshman if they wanted to impress the upperclassmen they could try to get the Don—that being Wedge—laid...

Good spoof

Brunsies

I just wanted to say that, after being disappointed over the past few years about the quality of the year-end spoof issue, I was going to give this year's issue a pass. I'm glad I didn't. This year's *Dairy Creamer* looks like it was produced by someone who ACTUALLY READ THE PAPER IT WAS SUPPOSED TO SPOOF. And, like all good satire, it's based on things which actually happened, or conceivably could happen. Is that item about using Mad Cows to clear mine fields really true? (Ed's note: It's a true concept, however we expanded upon the idea.) It's not that bad of an idea... Anyway, good job.

Patrick Toner
Fredericton Area Cybersp@cc

Bad spoof

Dear Mr. Morgan

I had never stopped to read your editorial rules until today, and I commend your spelling them out clearly. However, in this year's *Dairy Creamer* you have allowed the

publication of a photograph which might offend many people: Dionisius' throne with an image of Jesus Christ above it.

The very gratuitous association and celebration of paganism with Jesus is utterly irreverent and blasphemous. Perhaps, from now on, your newspaper should also prohibit any words or pictures that may offend the religious beliefs of its readers, whatever their religion. And I wish the persons who plan to carry out that celebration would remove the image of Jesus and let your readers know that they did so. Things like this will unnecessarily tarnish the reputation of Canada's oldest student newspaper.

Yours sincerely
Prof. Fernando Poyatos

