

Cassano ----- The Bruns supports him



JEAN-LOUIS TREMBLAY Photo

Life in the lower strata at UNB has plodded along without regard for the momentous event which is scheduled to happen today. As *University Perspectives* blithely noted in their last issue, today is the day in which we (hopefully) get a new president.

Anyone who has made even a moderate attempt to keep abreast of the situation cannot help but be overwhelmed at the out-and-out back-stabbing politics which has gone on since the short list was produced. One internal candidate who really didn't make it to the short list on the first go around withdrew his name and then put it in again, lamenting the lack of 'quality' candidates on the short list.

Senators question Governors for coming up with the principle of a single candidate from the nominating committee. Govern-

nors question the actions of Senators in proposing non-confidence in the joint nominating committee this summer.

The regional press jumped in with both feet planted firmly in their mouths on this issue, not realizing that the President of UNB is of much more significance to an employee of UNB than the analogous case in private industry. The press not realizing that the success of UNB depends in large measure on its president, nor that the Senate is the nearest thing the faculty have to a union hall, in which they are bound to express fears and concerns about their terms and conditions of employment and their lives' work.

As reported last week, the student Senators and Governors support the nomination of Dr. Cassano. On the basis of what we have been allowed to know, the Brunswickan would like to go on

record as supporting him as well.

Although there was concern about the rather slick presentations which he delivered at the two public sessions, Cassano impressed us as being a man of action and achievement. The feeling throughout the campus seems to favour an outside candidate, and the Brunswickan concurs. The new ideas and different perspective brought to us from elsewhere in Canada can be very good in assessing our own directions.

There are, no doubt, several internal candidates who could do a good job. The Brunswickan does feel, however, that UNB needs more than sound management. This is a difficult time for all universities and we need the best and most imaginative management our money can buy.

A lot of important people, from the Board of Deans, to some of

the Senate and Board of Governors, are against Cassano. They are welcome to their own opinion. UNB needs a president who can keep us out of a slump, not one who will be entirely predictable, which is what many seem to want.

When the smoke clears and we have a new president, it is to be hoped that all dissension will be put beside us and that students, faculty and staff will give unanimous support to, we hope, Cassano.

In the wake of this decision, it would be well to follow up on remarks written by law professor Dr. Hurley. In a letter to the *Gleaner* this past summer, he expressed the opinion that that it was perhaps time the provincial government had a look at the mechanisms by which UNB is governed. The Brunswickan agrees.