

Mudwump

Joseph W.J. FitzPatrick₃

Varsity Reds Hockey Who would have thunk it?

We have a great hockey team, and now the entire country knows it. Yet I have to wonder how we are so unable to get consistent crowds at the games at the AUC. Even I'm guilty of this. I have to admit that the semi-finals between UNB and the Golden Bears was the first Varsity Reds Hockey I'd ever seen at UNB. But what a game! The exhilaration I felt watching our team see-saw with what was supposed to be the best university hockey team in Canada was inexplicable and took me completely by surprise.

I got to wondering, as things made it to the second period of that game, how much hockey news went on around me that I simply wasn't paying attention to. A quick perusal of the internet gave me reams of stats for the CIAU hockey league, details of who won which game when and where. The only thing missing was a site which had compiled the stories from media located where various teams were. The V-Reds web site has a list of the stories from *The Brunswickan*, but I'd be more interested to have the opportunity to be able to follow any team in any game as it happens. That would be an amazing pile of hockey play-by-play.

This exhilaration brought me back to a feeling I had when the idea of a football referendum (and a football fee) first came about this year. Why add to our already precarious mix of Varsity and club sports? Why ruin everything with something so untried, so anti-diluvian, and so expensive as football? Our beleaguered Athletics Director has enough problems with his tiny budget and so many mouths biting at the apple. Why make life so much more difficult for him by adding such a monstrosity?

We can argue over whether the sport itself is good or evil, or whether it's a more effective means to increase school spirit but in the end, it's not appreciably better or worse (as a sport) than anything else we have already. But, it certainly is one thing: more expensive than any other sport we have.

I have to wonder what athletics would be like at UNB if instead of a \$10 football fee, it was a \$10 Athletics Fund. How much better an Athletics program might we have with an extra \$70,000? How much more time could our teams be practising and training (or going to class) rather than doing bottle drives and raffles to make enough money to buy equipment?

More and more, I keep coming back to my copy of the 1996-97 UNB Budget and perusing, with some amusement, the lack of credit the rest of the University gives to an athletics program which spends \$850,000 and costs UNB only \$475,000. Can you think of another program which spends as little for the amount of awareness they have?

I can list a few which caught my eye: UNB spends \$260,000 on recruiting new faculty; the Development (fund-raising) office budget is \$635,000 and \$4.4 million is spent on Summer Sessions and Extension. It can be argued, and it is by some, that everybody is funded at a level just below what they need to do a good job at UNB. Which makes a mockery of any proposal to have football. If your program is working fine with its current level of funding, pray you only get a 3% annual cut from the UNB Campus Butcher Committee.

I can't get over the feeling that these rounds of across-the-board cuts are a lazy way of avoiding hard and admittedly difficult policy decisions. Why do we have a half-baked program in Political Science? Would we have an appreciably better Arts program if we had fewer departments?

And if Kinesiology is a cheaper program to administer, which, given the costs that I've seen, it is, why not have the best Kinesiology program in the Country with 1000 students rather than the underfunded, under-appreciated one we have? There are fewer than 400 students in this program, but we treat them as if they didn't exist.

Give the V-Reds their due, but don't forget the rest of the teams. They have to beg and plead for 50% of their funding, but every year, there's the University and a certain administrator, out for blood from the stone that is the UNB Athletics program.

I'd like to challenge Mr. James F. O'Sullivan, UNB's Vice-President Finance since 1974, to spare the Athletics Program another 3% cut, especially given its performance this past year.

And what can I say about Coach Mike Kelly? Somebody at UNB should be getting a raise for hiring him!

Note:

The Editor-in-chief, Mary Rogal-Black has resigned. In accordance with the Bylaws, I will be completing her term. Oh, and I just got elected Editor-in-chief for 1997-98.

Welcome home, Dad

Saint John Shipbuilding Ltd. could be racking up the long distance charges in the near future. Why you might ask? The primary reason for all of the phone calls would be to call back many of the employees the company was forced to lay off almost two years ago.

This is a topic which really hits home for me, as my father was one of the company workers laid off in December of 1994. I'm sure however, that I am not the only person who can relate to this situation. Many men and women, some of whom had been working for the company for over twenty-five years, were forced to find new employment. The sadder part of it all was that many of the veteran workers did not see any type of retirement or compensation package distributed to them at the time of their dismissal.

Where do you go after working twenty-eight years with the same company, having begun almost fresh out of high school, with no degree? Back when our parents were our age, a degree was not needed, as long as you had a high school diploma you were almost guaranteed a job.

How does San Diego, New Orleans or Vancouver sound? These are some of the places where my father and his colleagues were forced to relocate to find employment. Six months there, home for a few weeks, eight months somewhere else, home for Christmas, and back again for another lengthy duration.

This is quite an ordeal for just a job you might think. What type of person would go all that distance, away from their home, family and friends? The answer — a loving caring person who puts the well-being of his family first, no matter what the sacrifice. In short this is my dad. This article may be a little on the personal side, but this is how editorials come to be effective. If the audience can relate to the author's message, the emotional response is heightened and may be easier to read and understand.

With the possibility of new contracts in the works in Saint John, former workers of SJSBL may have a renewed hope of regaining their former jobs. Their families and children might also have a renewed hope of having a loved one back home where they belong.

Not often enough, do I thank my father for the sacrifice he has made for our family. He is not the type of man to seek glory and fame, however, being apart from his wife and two children, off and on for months at a time, for the last two years is not an easy task. To me, this just shows what a special father he really is and how much he cares for my family.

Being such a committed and hardworking man is what has led my father to jobs in both San Diego and Vancouver. When he comes home in June, just in time for his wife's birthday, hopefully he can give her the best birthday gift possible, himself.

BLOOD & THUNDER

Letters to the Editor

Former Day Care user decries SU funding change

Open letter to the Student Union:

Please rethink your hasty decision to "yank funding from the College Hill Day Care." One of Trish Davidson's rational to revoke funding from College Hill Day Care is that the "SU has created a situation in which all students pay money for services used by a few." Councillors need to be reminded that students pay money for other worthwhile events, programs, services and societies regardless of their participation. If the prerequisite for financial support is 100% student participation, the Student Union needs to "yank" all funding.

Trish Davidson claims that "the majority of students are not placing their children at College Hill Day Care Centre because it is so expensive." The fees at College Hill Day Care are comparable if not less than most centres in the city. The cost per month per child is \$390.00 which works out to approximately \$1.96 an hour for a 9 hour day. Quality child care is expensive, but College Hill offers reasonable fees. Child care is a necessary investment into the care and education of young children. A unique characteristic of College Hill Day Care is that it is one of the few non-profit child care co-operative centres in Fredericton. That means that any surplus goes back into the centre not into the pockets of any one individual. The UNB Student Union needs to continue supporting College Hill Day Care because it is a student friendly centre. The Board and administration of the day care are sympathetic to the nature of student loans and bursaries and are known for working out payment arrangements with students which helps alleviate their fears of losing their child's placement. In the past, College Hill Day Care has been willing to arrange flexible hours during exam periods in order to accommodate student parents who need evening care.

Like all child care centres throughout Fredericton, College Hill runs on a very tight and creative budget. Without funding assistance from the Student Union, students will no longer have their holding fees fully subsidized. The support for student parents still exists through the generosity of CAMPUS that will hopefully remain a supporter to College Hill. Despite Campus' \$2,000 contribution, when students leaves May their child's placement will not be guaranteed for September. All centres in Fredericton require a holding fee for the summer months in order to remain financially viable. In the past, College Hill Day Care was able to assure student parents their child's placement during the summer months because the UNB Student Union supported parents.

College Hill Day Care has made going to university and raising a family possible for many students. One of the many benefits of using and supporting College Hill Day Care is that it is on campus. Many student families who live at Magee House can walk their children to the centre. For student parents who rely on bus or cabs that means they can drop their children off and walk to their

classes. And because College Hill Day Care has an open door policy which welcomes parents anytime of the day, student parents are able to visit their children between classes. College Hill Day Care also offers care for children under the age of two, which is not available at all child care centres in Fredericton. Many student mothers are able to continue breast feeding because their babies are only a few minutes away.

College Hill Day Care is an exceptionally high quality child care centre that benefits the entire university community, especially students. CHDC has been used as a research site for many students in the field of early childhood and psychology. The day care is staffed with trained early childhood educators that are sensitive to the unique needs of student parents and their children. Trish Davidson feels that "we should be putting our money into a facility that is used more by students." Ms. Davidson should realize that since College Hill Day Care opened its door in 1994, it has touched the hearts and minds of approximately 215 children. College Hill

Day Care has approximately 48 children currently enrolled 22 of which are children of student parents. College Hill Day Care is being used by as many student parents who rely on this serviced to go to school and raise a family!

The Student Union needs to continue to give their financial and moral support to College Hill Day Care. They should also create an endowment fund where students can apply for day care subsidies to accommodate student parents who do not have their child enrolled at College Hill Day Care. If the Student Union feels that students are not placing their children because it is too expensive, the SU should increase funding to quality, on campus child care is available to more students. Our children are our future we must take good care of them. Please reconsider your decision to yank funding out from under struggling student parents and their kids.

Beth Corey, BEd 1996
Mother of 2 College Hill Day Care graduates

More on wasted paper

To the Editor:

Last week, I sent a letter to the editor about how double spacing is a waste of paper. This week I want to beat the shit out of the subject.

This time I want to talk about the value of paper though. Paper has no value! Take a clear white sheet of paper, crumple it up and throw it in the garbage. No one would get pissed off at you or even say a thing. A piece of paper at the most costs a couple pennies. But that piece of paper has all the value in the world. Value that is irreplaceable.

How can we cut down every last square meter of forest only to have someone write one word on a sheet of whiteness then throw it out; only to have someone read one article from *Maclean's* then send it to the nearest landfill; only for someone to wipe their ass with 25 sheets and flush it down the toilet. People don't make the connection when unloading on the toilet between ecology and those wasted sheets. They make the connection between the penny costs and their actions.

The government of New Brunswick has sold NB short by allowing harvesting of The Christmas Mountains and many other parts of the province. I mean, really, are NBers so desperate for work, is their future so bleak, that they would sweat and work so hard to harvest the blowdown area with low yield and dangerous work conditions just for a few nickels? They should be humiliated for their blood and sweat just ended up in the nearest landfill or sewage lagoon.

So who cares? So why am I telling you, you're not to blame, right! Ultimately, the responsibility falls in the hands of the few who govern for subsidizing and for

allowing harvesting of every last square meter of forest and the companies for selling themselves and their employees short. But you know, there is something you can do. Use paper judiciously, use just a few tickets, use both sides of the paper and single space, pass that Maclean's on to somebody else.

Demand that UNB libraries get double sided photocopies, that UNB computing services get double sided printers, that Profs give handouts that use both sides of the paper, finally when it is all used up (especially this Bruns), place it in the nearest recycle bin rather than the closest garbage barrel.

Benji Ward

Poverty among us

To the Editor:

It is interesting to note that the plight of our contract cleaning staff keeps cropping up in these pages. And so it should, for we have real poverty among us! As we look at our "better than average" pay cheques, we should remember, that in the same building, there are people whose working conditions and benefits are not much better than third-world sweat shops.

We as a university community are responsible for this situation. Let us hope that some justice will prevail during the next round of contract negotiations.

P. Wright
Associate-Professor, Human Resource Management
UNB Faculty of Business Administration

Congratulations to the V-Reds, shame on the announcer

To the Editor:

I was never so proud to sport the colours of UNB as I was this past Monday evening when UNB came oh so close to winning the national championship. Irish eyes may not have been smiling on us on this day, but they soon will from the looks of this year's UNB hockey team. This hockey team exemplifies the determination and perseverance that is UNB and served to show the rest of Canada the quality of our school both in athletics and in academics. The oddsmakers may not have given UNB much of a chance to win this title, but I dare say it may be another story in the years to come.

The only sour note to the title game for me was what I believe to have been blatantly pro-Ontario announcing by the TSN sportscastr. I had always believed Dr. Randy Gregg to be an intelligent man; one whom I believed would be able to leave any prejudices behind and serve as impartial party to the event. I am unhappy to say that this was not the case. I guess you might not expect much from a former player of the Alberta Golden Bears who were

knocked out of the tournament by UNB on Saturday. I was appalled at the lack of respect that UNB garnered from these two supposedly professional sports broadcasters. The Varsity Reds deserved to be in that championship game just as much as the Guelph team did, and almost came away with the title. The broadcasters used such words as "upstarts from New Brunswick," and basically talked the rest of the game about the "almighty Guelph Gryphons." I don't know if anyone else noticed this in addition to me. Perhaps, I was just

imagining things? What do the rest of you think?

To conclude on a much lighter note though, UNB has shown yet again that we can compete at the highest level in Canada. This hockey program deserves all the support and adulation that we can give them. Congratulations Varsity Reds. May Irish Eyes be smiling on you in 1998 and in the future.

Kent Nicholson
UNB BScE'96

V-Reds Hockey brought us together

To the Editor:

Attended hockey game in Toronto last night. The Reds were definitely the better team but got robbed by a hot goaltender and questionable refing.

It was remarkable as well to be part of the scene. There were alumni from all over and from many different generations in attendance. Many people loved their University days and a significant part of it was attendance at athletic events.

I am disappointed to see the results of the football poll. People are missing the point if they are basing their opinion on whether they like or know the game. It is an event, a time when people get together, have a good time, and maybe even catch some school spirit.

For what it is worth!!

Peter Merrill
Alumni '71



the
brunswickan

Canada's Oldest Official Student Publication
Established 1867

Editor-in-Chief (Acting)
Joseph W.J. FitzPatrick III

Managing Editor
Joseph W.J. FitzPatrick III

News Editor
A. VOY DYTE

Entertainment Editor
Peter J. Cullen

Sports Editor
Maria Paisley

Photo Editor
Jud DeLong

Features Editor
Jenn Brown

Distractions Editor
Trina Kilpatrick

Online Editor
Cynthia Kirkby

Campus Editor
Dennis German

Book Editor
Elise Craft

Science Editor
Amy McComb

Typesetter
Maria Paisley

Business Manager
Charlene Keddy

Advertising Manager
Bill Traer

Proofreader
Jen Trites

Staff

Aaron MacEachern, Greg Tucker, Kurt Peacock, Sam Morgan, Jethelo Cabilette, and Christina Atkinson.

Contributors

Gordon Loane and Doug MacLean.

Viewpoint Banner

Illustrated by Kent Wiczell

This issue is dedicated to:

Mary Rogal-Black. Mr. Cottonhead and the other cool cottonheads really miss you. Crunch, crunch.

The Brunswickan, in its 130th year of publication, is Canada's oldest official student publication. We publish weekly during the school year, with a circulation of 10,000 copies. The *Brunns Online* is an ongoing e-zine version of *The Brunswickan*, located on the World Wide Web at <http://www.unb.ca/web/brunns>. The opinions contained in this newspaper are those of the individual writers, and do not necessarily reflect the views of *The Brunswickan*.

All members of the university community are encouraged to contribute to *The Brunswickan*. While we endeavour to be an open forum for a variety of viewpoints and ideas, we may refuse any submission considered racist, sexist, libellous, or those containing attacks of a strictly personal nature. *The Brunswickan* reserves the right to edit for brevity and clarity. Letters generally shouldn't exceed 300 words in length and must contain your signature, student number and phone number, or they will not be printed.

All copy submitted must be double spaced, on one side of the page only and must be legible. If we can't read it, we won't print it. You think that sounds obvious, but if you could see the horrors we've seen... *The Brunswickan* accepts copy on 3.5 inch disk, either Macintosh or MS-DOS format. Articles printed in *The Brunswickan* may be freely reprinted provided proper credit is given. Cause the last thing we want to be accused of is greediness.

The Brunswickan is proudly printed by New Brunswick Publishing Inc. of Saint John. This week's paper was delivered by Jud DeLong and Jen Trites, putting the miles on in style. Subscription rates are \$27 per year. Second class mail is in effect #8120. Contact the Sales Manager for further details. National advertising rates are available from Campus Plus at (416) 362-6468.

The Brunswickan
Student Union Building
University of New Brunswick
P.O. Box 4400
E3B 5A3 CANADA

Phone: (506) 453-4983
Advertising: (506) 453-5073
Fax: (506) 453-4958
E-Mail: brunns@unb.ca
WWW Site: <http://www.unb.ca/web/brunns>