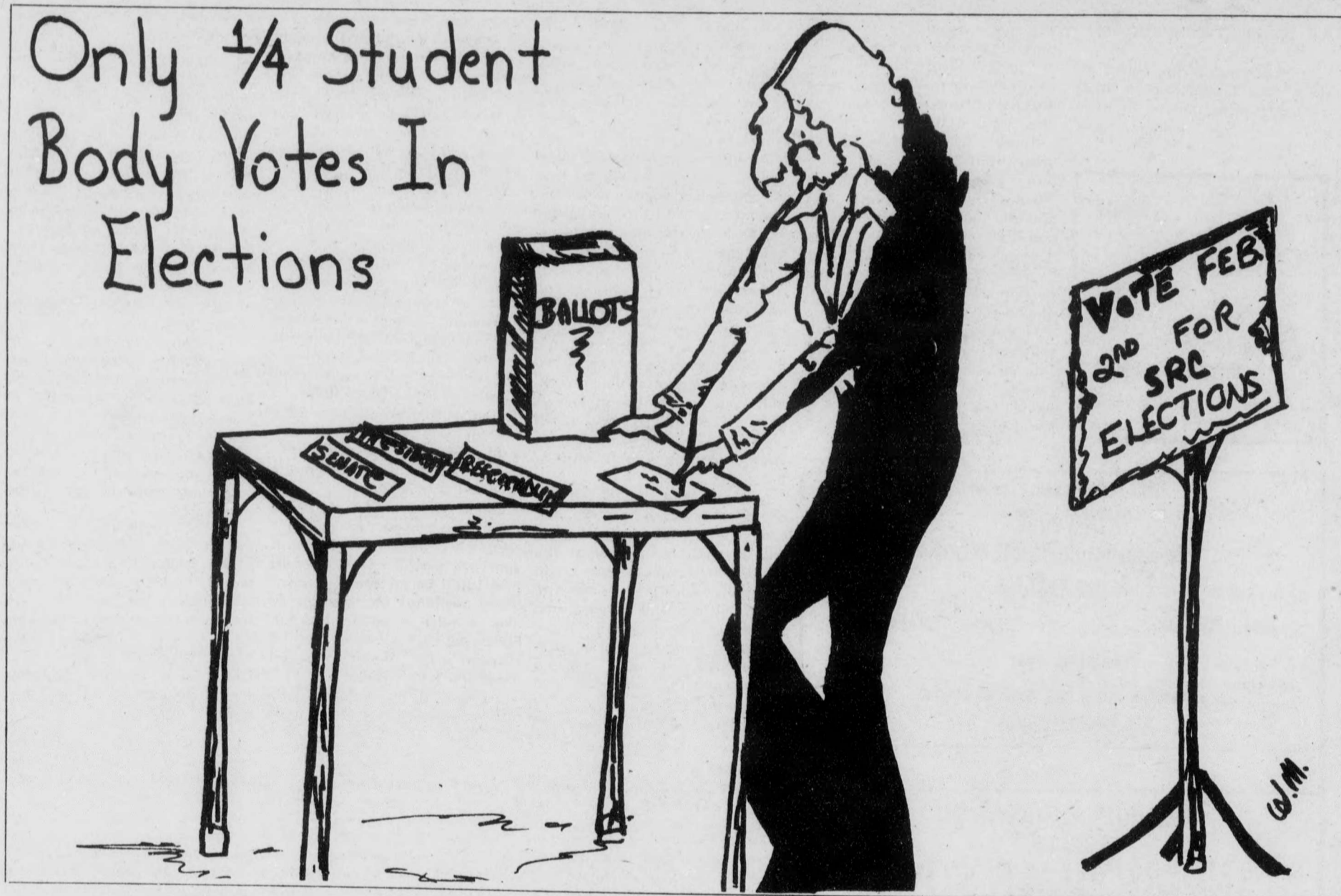


Only 1/4 Student Body Votes In Elections



Hildebrand: right idea but wrong issue

Two very long letters have appeared on the 'Sound-Off' page of The Brunswickan in the past two weeks authored by A. Hildebrand.

These letters have advocated a motion which the SRC rejected concerning the making of SRC fees beyond the Student Union Building Mortgage payment pure-

ly voluntary.

It is hard to determine the exact reason for this campaign at this time. As long as there has been a student union, fees have been voluntary, the thing being that you will not receive any kind of student ID if you do not pay them.

In any union of workers and students alike, people pay union dues whether they like it or not. This may inconvenience a few, but it greatly benefits the majority. The system is not perfect, but it is the only one which in practical terms actually works.

There are certain aspects of student unionism which require funds to make them possible. Things like the newspaper you are now reading. The Brunswickan has accumulated nearly \$30,000 in equipment over the years, which could not have been purchased without some buildup of funds.

Similarly, CHSR has over \$100,000 worth of equipment accumulated over the past ten years or so, again because the entire student body felt that there were higher goals, which are not

possible without total cooperation of a group of people.

The student body at UNB has more common sense than to think that major governmental functions can be achieved without some self-sacrifice.

Consider the situation of the people in Saint John. Nearly half the taxes of the province come from that city, and when the government decides to build a hospital on the North shore there isn't a great cry of foul in Saint John.

In the most idealistic sense, the Hildebrand movement is perfectly proper. The Brunswickan would like to support any movement that increases popular participation in student government. It is, however impossible to support something which is a non-issue.

Fees are voluntary now and, always will be. The students at UNB have made a decision as to the level of support that they are willing to give in monetary terms to the SRC. Working back from that it is clear that in spite of the ups and downs of student government it serves a useful function and must be supported. This is a closed shop.

Speaking of woodwork

We just had an interview with one of the scrutineers in the recent student elections and he told us about a few candidates we forgot.

Maybe it's a bit late, but we must be fair.

Chris Pratt got about half a dozen votes, including one on an AFS ballot.

Illa, the Wonder Dog, snatched two or three.

Ken Roe, resident of The Brunswickan darkroom, took one or two.

Our source, who wishes to retain his identity, says he thinks Jimmy Carter took a few too.

On one student fee increase ballot, the voter wrote, "Definitely" after he checked the "No" box.

There was one vote for a residence pop machine.

Obviously, there were a few candidates who just didn't get any publicity. We wonder how they would have done if they had got full Brunswickan and CHSR coverage like the rest of them.

Some of them seem to have run on pretty solid platforms, at least as good as the candidates who were listed on the ballot.

That's another thing. It's not exactly fair to only put some of the candidates on the ballot. They would have polled a respectable vote if they had been given a chance. They have more support than some people might like to think.

The only conclusion we can draw is that there is a conspiracy by influential persons to prevent the students from expressing their true opinions on election day.



We're going to have elections are not over see if the guy writing I predict that Kevin Murray didn't put any too professional looking student.

Mike Bleakney, Ch Senate seats. "Bleak through their position incumbent. Delores C will have to wait till Brian Pryde will be advantage of being a be turned off because Power hungry.

Brian Forbes will w more than the other tv sign for a would-be s scholarships to retain student. Gary Ladd d another bad sign for a Forbesey didn't put a

The Computer Scie both in favour of the neither is in favour of both claim they will Association. But there increase, Steeves is Computer Science Whoever heard of a co it.

We will remain men After all, our last NI majority, and the pro The \$10.00 student sudden burst of sanit heard of a politician platform.

Our sports editor de education seats. Since week, we couldn't ca them have the quali It's now 8:00 p.m. a I think I'll stand by wh know how their predi us a letter.

Now I have a proble wouldn't win the pres Forbesey will win the any up.

I think I'll have to As a way of weas candidates put up ty good way to descri posters will win the In the case of the underkills, and the o shut will win.

I never did like w Now somebody ask will? In that fine old sera, sera". The polls just close accused of cheating.

Dear Editor

Your article "I.R.D. Aitken" (January 28, 1977) was a well-done presentation of the actions of the I.R.D.C. however, one thing I criticize you on. You "spokesperson" was out and entirely incorrect.

I am all for equ "spokesperson" is sim proper word. I realize