

# The Brunswickan

"Had it not been for Thomas Edison, we'd be watching First Choice by candlelight."

-Cal Rifkin

"A husband who is boss in his own house, is probably a liar about other things, too."

-Hunter S. Hutch

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# OPINION...

## SMILE... it could be worse

by MANUEL SKOULAS  
Brunswickan Staff

Why is it that so many people are unhappy, upset, depressed, mad at the world - whatever? I'm getting pretty worried here. Depressed even. I don't like to see people down in spirits.

SMILE EVERYBODY! Rejoice in all the beauty and happiness in the world. Be grateful for all you have. Live life to the fullest - what! What do you mean, you can't? I don't understand.

So you think you've got problems. Well, take a look around - EVERYBODY has problems, and some people's are a lot worse than yours or mine - take the situation in Africa, for one (I don't mean to be drastic or distant, but really, how many of us can say we have it as bad as at least 90% of them?)

I realize that we all have a lot to deal with that can get us down. I really can understand when somebody's upset about family, friends, or anyone or anything he or she cares about. For example, we can't help someone who doesn't want or feel the need to be helped in some way, but coming to terms with that doesn't come easy; talking about it can help.

But I can't stand it when someone bitches endlessly about something meaningless or superficial. You've obviously mistaken

me for someone who cares, as they say (I'm not particularly fond of cliches, having had a bad experience with one in English class, but in this case I think its so appropriate.)

The fact that you spent 50 bucks on those pants, or that you drove around all day looking for such a pair - man, that really upsets me. Next time, I'll spend the day going from place to place, and when I find them, I will come and get you, and drive you there, and I will pay for them. Really what am I supposed to do? Maybe I could run over you with your precious car and save you the bother of living - it seems like such an inconvenience to you; all you do it bitch about it.

I don't want to hear about how hungover you are either. Don't get so drunk that you can't remember driving home; are you upset about it or just bragging? -just be glad you didn't kill anybody. I have little sympathy for a habitual drunk or druggie, you're just wasting your life away, and hurting other people in the process. There are so many better ways to forget about a problem, or to party it up.

These are hardly what I would call serious problems. I could go on, but I don't like to bitch too much anymore; I guess I'm quite tired of it. I used to be so good at it. Instead of com-

plaining about everything under the sun, look around at all the beauty, at all you have to be grateful for. Or can't you see much? Perhaps if someone slapped some sense into you, you'd see things you haven't before.

Wars, famine, poor living and working conditions, disease, and oppression or repression are widespread; how many of these have you been affected by lately?

Are you one of the 2 1/2 billion starving people of this planet? Do you live in a hut or shack with 10 other people? Are the clothes you are wearing the only ones you own? At this point I think it's inappropriate to ask if you have a TV, phone, stereo, VCR, microwave, waterbed, car, cottage, etc. If you answered 'no' to all three questions above, you are already in the small minority.

I know that having the basic comforts of life isn't really enough for many people, since we have better opportunities than most people. Again, I know that a lot of things can get us down. But to let meaningless things bother us, a lot, or to get drunk frequently - or at all - is itself meaningless. It's not for me to point out to you all that is good in life. You must look for yourself, you might be surprised at what you see.

## Criticisms reviewed

It has come to our attention that there are several people who are perturbed about the Brunswickan's review of this year's Red 'n Black.

These people have approached Brunswickan Staff, complaining that Timothy Lethbridge's review was inaccurate, contradictory, within itself, and above all, cruel and unfair.

As Entertainment Editors, we placed the review in our section, and therefore we have

received most of the complaints.

Constructive criticism is fine -we do not object to that. What we do object to, is the fact that people have gone so far as to suggest that we should have gotten another writer to review the Red 'n Black.

What those people don't seem to understand is this; reviews are supposed to be critical evaluations, and are subjective by nature. Not only is Tim Lethbridge an experienc-

ed reviewer, but he was also the only person who was willing to do the review in the first place.

You see, we at the Brunswickan have a problem...we are seriously understaffed. We can't pick and choose who writes about what. So instead of complaining about our reviews, why don't you join the Bruns and write them yourself?

Karen and Zoe  
Entertainment Co-Editors

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