

## Sound Off

# Forestry Week rates same coverage as other events

Dear Brunswickan Staff:

This letter concerns your article "Forester upset with Bruns" in your November 1, 1974 issue. This letter is directed towards Susan Manzer and Tom Benjamin; and it should be noted that this letter is also on the terms that they have outlined in their reply to that particular article.

From the sounds of both Mr. Curtis' letter and the reply the editors gave, the only real problem is just a matter of The Brunswickan's, and its staff's, policy of not getting their priorities straight. This seems to be the point that Mr. Curtis was trying to make. An event like Forestry Week, which is an annual event just like Winter Carnival and other major events which The Bruns seems to have no problem in having covered, and also an event that involves a great number of students - in that case the turnout of a whole faculty, should be

covered with the same coverage as these other major events.

As for the matter concerning the policy of The Bruns as a newspaper, a policy is a policy. But if the policy conflicts with more important basic goals, then obviously the policy is either inadequate or in error. If a queen contest is an activity within an important campus event then it of necessity (for continuity) should be covered in the newspaper. Again this comes down to a simple case of getting priorities straight.

Your article made numerous references to the fact that The Bruns was understaffed. This AGAIN involves the matter of priorities. If there is not an adequate staff you should not try to turn out such a huge volume of printed matter that keeps all those that work on the paper up until four am on Wednesday and Thursday nights, although I can appreciate all of your feelings of reward and invigoration that are obtained by

doing so. Still, common sense needs to be applied.

At this point I would like to make two personal comments on the state of the paper and the reply that was made to Mr. Curtis' letter.

First, I feel that the editors' reply was well done from the standpoint that it staved off some of the unpleasant airs that the letter invoked, however, I feel that the editors were just as snarky and obnoxious in their reply as were some of the comments that the gentleman made, and perhaps even more obnoxious if for no other reason than that the reply was two-and-a-half times the length of the original letter and made fewer points. The reply was well done but it failed to snow-job this student.

The second point is one upon which I concur with Mr. Curtis, the Bruns is (and to put it in his word) "trashy". The proportion of coverage to the magnitude of the

event follows no pattern whatsoever and this is a matter that should be in direct relationship to each other. Here, I feel I must add that you said that we should not compare your student publication to a professional publication, that is true - to a point. It must be compared to a professional newspaper from the point of view of the ability of the newspaper to attain the objectives of covering the major events of the issues' time period and of presenting it in an objective, appealing manner - neither of which I have seen in the Bruns recently as a continuous spectrum. This once again comes down to a matter of policy priorities; and one of them is not the printed personal purposes favoring the interests of those who run it.

I would finally like to say, and as non-sarcastically as possible because this letter has ATTEMPTED to criticize as constructively as possible, that I for one appreciate the laborious hours you put in working on The Bruns (for I too once worked on a publication and came across these same types of difficulties) that you are doing a fine job and by no means would I like to see the Bruns abolished; but you can do a better job, the way the job should be done, just get your policy priorities straightened out a little better.

Sincerely,

Geoffrey K. Bowman

## Act gives refuge to discriminated

Dear Editor:

According to an article in the October 18, 1974 issue of The Brunswickan ("Summer Work Scarce for Girls"), women being sent out to apply for summer jobs through the Canada Manpower Centre in Peterborough, Ontario are often discriminated against in hiring practices. The official interviewer in the article cites one case in which Manpower sent women to apply for positions as painters. Despite the fact the women had experience and could do the work, they were not hired because they were female.

The attitude of the article seems to suggest that if such a situation occurs, nothing can be done about it, save appealing to the conscience of the employer. This is not true. Ontario, like New Brunswick, has human rights legislation designed to protect victims of discrimination. The Ontario Human Rights Code (Revised Statutes of Ontario 1970, Chapter 318, as amended, 1971 and 1972); section 4 (1) (a) states:

"No person shall, refuse to refer or to recruit any person for employment; establish or maintain any employment classification or category that by its description or operation excludes any person from employment, because of race, creed, colour, age, sex, marital status, nationality, ancestry, or place of origin of such person or employee."

I agree with the idea put forth in the article of voluntary persuasion of employers, but from human experience we know this is not effective in every case whether the problem is discrimination or inflation.

Indeed, if people voluntarily did what was "right" after being informed, there would be no need for the adjective side of the law. If the Canada Manpower Centre in Peterborough is refusing to take

any further steps when conciliation has failed, then it is in breach of its duty to provide equal employment opportunities for women in consideration of the mens legislatoris of the laws of Ontario as well as the policies of the government of Canada.

Perhaps there is greater need to support Manpower Minister Robert Andras statement made in

June of this year during an address in Moncton, when it is suggested the name "Manpower" be changed to something like "Human Resources Centres."

It's certainly time the "Man Power" employees stopped taking the department's name so literally.

Donna R. Lane  
Law 1

## Writer's insight said limited

Dear Mugwump or Editor (whatever suffices to put this in the Bruns):

This letter will not entitle you to a free pizza!

As regards your misleading comment in your column, Nov. 1st Bruns - I take personal affront (as I am sure others have, who condescend to read your drivel) as a Canadian and as a believer in friends.

Having had close contact with a gentleman who served his country well as an RCMP officer for 29 years and more recently with his son, a close friend, now in the force, I will enlighten you to the pizza situation - that is if you wish to broaden your mind as you hope others do who read your column.

When a Mountie says he is on the 9-5 shift - he does not mean day time. His regular shift, in this respect, is not regular! Often an officer is required in Court during the daylight hours usually reserved for sleep, as I am sure, you, as a multi various expert can certainly appreciate - the sleep I mean.

Cravings for pizza usually come late at night - even in Fredericton - when no other place is open or

just wants something to take out quickly. For these reasons, Mounties, being human, also frequent pizza shops and as obvious from the trend of this letter, often more frequently than others. Thus as a gesture of good will or appreciation for services rendered, it is the common practice for local establishments, be they coffee shops, delicatessen, or pizza shops to offer to members of the RCMP products at a cut rate or free. Whatever is appropriate is dictated by the individual establishment.

Thus I strongly urge that you save your insinuations of M...a for the "Godfather" - it's on TV, Saturday, Nov. 9th. Check your local listings if you tear yourself away from your personal copy of "A Narcissist's Guide To Self-Enjoyment". And next time you witness anything "out of the ordinary", check with other authority than your personal experience and knowledge, which as evidenced from your column, is rather limited.

Sincerely,

D. Ingersoll

E. Chown



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