

# sound off continued 11 THE BRUNSWICKAN

## Jones replies re ASU situation

The past few weeks the Brunswickan has carried a series of articles on the African Students' Union. Although most of these articles presented only personal opinions; one would think the issue would have by now investigated an investigation (or fact find interviews) by the Brunswickan as a sign of responsible journalism. It certainly has been noticed that most of these articles were centered around the president of the ASU. But Jones has been silent until now, and some may have concluded that he has no defence.

I therefore find it necessary at this juncture to request the use of the media in presenting a clarification to this seemingly misleading impression which my silence may have caused.

The position of silence which I started selected is by no means one of weakness but

rather one of caution, in the interests of the viability of the ASU.

1) Public confrontation through the media does not solve our problems and is therefore not necessary.

2) As the "accused" in this situation the burden of proof is not mine, and therefore with a clear conscience I saw no need for defence.

3) My term of office as President of the ASU had nearly expired when the crisis occurred and certainly will expire on March 31. And I have no further interest in the position which I am presented as protecting.

Those are but a few logical reasons why one would simply ignore the many irresponsible publications which have been sent through by some African students. But the issues here cannot be resolved by logic only but by experience. And so I

have all along been open to talks on the problem. I have attended several meetings with the so-called "Caretaker Committee" in an attempt to resolve our differences. At all of these meetings I have proposed 'general elections' as the ultimate solution to the problem, but with no success.

We would like to believe that we don't need elections as prescribed by the laws of the SRC, our sponsored organization. Would we like to believe that we don't need financial support from the SRC? If so I will warn that we might be in a dream to believe that members of the ASU can independently support the organization financially, when collection of dues, is a difficulty all executives can confirm. But these were some of the arguments for "no elections" that the committee presented. Let us be realistic and put the interests of the ASU ahead of our personal political ambitions. I still say let us have general elections as soon as possible.

The "Magic" of western political systems has been in process of power transfer. Where that system is still available and was respected by my executive in the scheduling of general elections for March 6, I cannot permit and will not recognize the attempted coup of Feb. 22nd.

If the report on Oromia was the cause, could it not be corrected as I proposed in the same Brunswickan? If mishandling of funds was the cause, was March 6 too far away from Feb. 22nd, to wait for a financial report and if necessary a call for general

audit. Or were we running away?

Let us forget about the many secret meetings which were held as early as three months before, Feb. 22, to plan a coup.

Let us forget the many public attempts which were made to irresponsibly assassinate our character, but let us not forget

African Unity, let us not forget the viability of the ASU. So let

us have a general election and give birth once more to a politically useful organization, the ASU.

Ernest C.B. Jones

## Attention female population

To the Female Population:

It seems that the members of the female population who wrote the letter to the male population in last week's Bruns have been finding out the hard way what some people have known for a long time. That is, that guys don't always feel like doing it, just as women don't. What is unfortunate is that you ladies have been learning this from guys who have led you to expect otherwise. I can sincerely sympathize with your situation. I'm sure that we have all been in uncomfortable situations because we didn't know what the other person expected of us.

However, I would like to assure you ladies that the entire male population is not made up of feeble-minded idiots who can't make up their minds about what they want to do, or who haven't got the guts to say what they

want or don't want. Some of us can actually be straightforward and easy to get along with. False promises are not our favorite pastime. Also, we are not all intimidated by liberated women. It's too bad that you ladies have been meeting guys who are.

I applaud your plea for honesty and I second the motion. To prove it, here is my bit of honesty for the week. I was intrigued by your letter and I would like to meet the ladies responsible for it to find out what gave you the initiative to write such a letter. If indeed the roles are reversing as you liberated women suggest, you can call me, the intrigued male, at 454-1936 and I'll let you buy me a beer.

Sincerely,  
An Intrigued Member of the Male Population

P.S. I'll tell you my expectations if you'll tell me yours.

## PALE promotes responsible alcohol use

Dear Editor:

PALE (peer alcohol educators) is the name of a new program initiated through the Student Health Centre to promote responsible alcohol use on campus. University life is often the first opportunity most students have to bring their drinking out of the closet. Drinking habits are formed here and therefore the university can be a key place to educate students on the responsible use of alcohol. It seems sometimes that instead of doing this, UNB and STU actually promote alcohol and with it alcohol misuse. Drinking events bring in needed funds to various organizations and people have fun drinking. The intention of PALE is not to spoil the fun; just to help people know the facts about alcohol and to begin to prevent the destruction, the stress, the injury and vandalism that can and does result from irrespon-

sible alcohol use.

The students involved with the program have devised workshops to present to interested groups on campus. They concern a variety of topics, sex roles and alcohol, alternate highs, party planning, stress, relaxation study break, alcohol and values, and the physiology of alcohol. The workshops are set up for lots of discussion and participation.

PALE isn't going to change the world in a day or cure the alcoholics. It is NOT a temperance group. PALE believes that alcohol has a place in this world and on this campus but it causes a few problems they'd like to see cleared up.

If anyone is interested in the workshops or the program itself, please feel free to contact me.

Jane McLeod  
UNB-STU Student Health Centre

## Help acknowledged

Dear Sir:

I wish to acknowledge an important omission from my review of *The Gap Band III*, which appeared in the March 13 edition of this paper. Due to a mix up in communication which was largely my fault, no acknowledgment was made of the fact that Joe Cormier,

whose expertise indeed exceeds mine in this particular niche of soul music, was an invaluable aid to me in preparing that particular review. For all intents and purposes he co-authored that article due to the fact that his ideas were the backbone to me writing it in the first place.

Wilfred M. Langmaid

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