

Sound Off

Mugwump Journal

So, Premier Hatfield and his Progressive Conservatives won both of the by-elections. I thought he would win one, but was doubtful that they would win two.

This increases the pressure to have a full-scale provincial election. I doubt this column will hit the streets before the election is called.

The Liberals are discounting the by-election by saying that neither seat was fought on provincial election issues. To the best of my knowledge the whole Fredericton bridge issue was completely avoided in York County. Seems strange doesn't it. For while there weren't any issues at all except roads, and the Progressive Conservatives claim they have done everything they set out to, but won't announce any future plans until the election.

The Conservatives could interpret the victories as a mandate to go on governing until spring or next fall, but I doubt they will. They knew they were in trouble this summer and they must now be thinking that they have solved those problems.

Speaking of conservative problems, I saw at close hand for the first time, the Bricklin car. I had seen one before but only on the road. This one was in front of the Lord Beaverbrook Hotel and with absence of armed guards, I sat in the Bricklin. I was quite thrilled to begin with. Seemed quite surprising to me that N.B. could produce one of these cars, and ship it off to the U.S.A. It seemed to be just a dream or a newspaper story.

Overall I think it was quite an impressive car. The design both inside and out I thought was good. It didn't seem as low to the ground as most sports cars. The room for your left leg in the drivers side seemed inadequate and the only place you could put your foot was on the high beam indicator which I thought badly placed.

Other than that I was impressed with it. I am still unsure that the price isn't too high at \$7,500 - but I know that there are individuals who will pay any price for something different.

The Egg Marketing Board is going to be investigated and I hope they find that several consumers are needed for the board to protect our interests.

WUSCrafts have put on quite a show in the SUB ballroom and you can catch it today. A lot of interesting items for yourself or nice gifts for Xmas, etc.

It is SRC election time again and I got a few things to say. Any comments I make are attempts to be unbiased and shouldn't be misinterpreted as such. They are my opinion only.

On the Board of Governors I am glad that Brian Forbes was elected for one year although he acclamation. I think he will be a good representative.

For the two year Senate seat I think Moyra Barry will be a better student representative than Rick Scott.

In credentials they both have advantages and disadvantages.

When the crunch comes and there is a gut issue when you expect representatives to stand up for you I think Moyra will and Rick won't. I think Rick is a little too cosy with the administration for the nod. He is also a little pompous. I also think he will win the Senate seat and I don't want the same concentration of power that Ken De Freitas had because he was cosy with the administration too and couldn't handle it.

For the other Senate seat I hope Damian Bone gets elected. He has done a good job elsewhere so far, why not try Senate.

For the SRC:

Gary Stairs has been acclaimed Vice-President. The SRC has been lucky to have a string of good Veeps and I hope Gary doesn't let you down, because he has the credentials to do a pretty good job.

For Rep at Large I think the best candidate is Ursula Wawer who already is very involved. She should be careful that she doesn't try to outdo her sister just for the sake of doing so, but for good reasons. I think that she is a good candidate by any standards.

Interesting election for Science Rep between Gordon Kennedy, Heather Ratcliff and Cynthia Urquhart. All would be interesting councillors in their own way.

No political heavies were acclaimed. I was surprised that Roy Neale didn't run for Arts Rep, as I heard he would.

The Atlantic Area Conference of Student Unions was successful all things considered.

The scheduled events came off quite well except for a meeting at 9:00 a.m. Sunday which didn't start until 10:00 a.m.

At the final plenary several good resolutions were put forward as well as several not so good ones, but they will be interesting to approach the provinces with.

Noticed a few interesting things. Of all the delegates from the Student Unions only two or three of the official delegates were women. Over the past few years only Valerie Jaeger and Joyce Curtis have become involved in our SRC on an executive level despite the fact that there have been many good female councillors.

Only Chris Gilliss and Warren McKenzie represented UNB's SRC as official delegates. Derwin Gowan another councillor was also there. Peter Galoska had scheduled a trip to Montreal and Rod Doherty had other things to do.

The next conference is scheduled for the Nova Scotia Agricultural College in Truro with Mount Allison in Sackville being the alternate.

STU needs more variety?

Dear Editor:

I must say your article last week on the apparent inability of St. Thomas to function on its own for too many more years certainly stirred up a few people. I don't know how many have written back to you in reply but I thought I just had to get this out.

For years I watched Fredericton grow without St. Thomas and when the decision was finally made to move the University here from Chatham (much to the dismay of Chathamites I figured that was a sure sign they needed money to help run the institution. It just wasn't a profitable venture anymore in Chatham.

So over they came, those green and gold Miramichiers and all their fun and frolic and drinking culture (which I for one can not knock them for). But with them came the end of a beautiful UNB campus and an ability to expand as was seen fit. Not the end of the beauty in the sense of landscape for heaven knows all steps were taken to assimilate STU with UNB architecturally, but the end of the beauty of a oneness campus. The idea of having another university (actually not much more than a college) on the premises turned a lot of people off. Teachers College, now a part of UNB, was a mistake which was recently seen.

Students at UNB lost their sense of unity to a great extent and were often quite perturbed to see the solidarity among the students at St. Thomas, because they really had that All For One spirit. But then again this comes from a small college atmosphere. They stayed up the hill and minded their own business and were quite often forgotten (except when it came to the tri-campus idea of library, gymnasium, SUB and media use). The campus almost overnight became too small for its combined student body. Classes had to be split with students taking some courses at each institution. Hardly a way to improve unification. It's unification that makes a university thrive if you ask me. Something to look back on when you are old and grey. But UNB has lost this.

Confusing layouts confusing

Dear Editor:

What the hell are you people trying to prove? You are confusing me tremendously with your layouts. Two weeks ago you ran the newspaper backwards and last week the poetry page was all upside down and backwards. For a guy like me, who is used to reading left to right and opening a newspaper from the right, it is a strange situation.

However I have learned to read very well in a mirror. In fact so well I think I will become a dentist. In fact most people don't realize a dentist fixes your cavities backwards with that little mirror. Try it sometime. It ain't that easy.

Befuddled, and Cross-Eyed

Academically the article was right. STU does not offer enough variety in faculties. This will ultimately be its downfall. The student of today does not want just a degree, but a specialized degree, although there is room for both.

The best answer would be for STU to dissolve its administration and rebuild under the UNB plan. Use St. Thomas as the UNB College of Arts.

This sounds like a very cold suggestion but I think if you look at it realistically, it is the only way out for a university which is apparently going to have financial problems simply because they are not able to entice new students to Fredericton with what they have to offer.

One For All and All For One (UNB)

What's the good word next week?

Dear Editor:

In reading the Bruns over the past month I have made an astonishing discovery. I read the Sports Section (which I think is well done) but the wording needs a little punch to it.

The following is a list of words I have seen on your pages to describe "win":

Swamped, thrashed, scrubbed,

throttled, blasted, squeezed, smashed, humiliated, destroyed, bashed, pummeled, crushed, annihilated, nipped, edged, bombed, humbled, dropped, clobbered, squashed, downed, ran over, felled, outclassed, threw, ground, rammed, outscored, whipped, nailed, overpowered and man-handled.

How's about a few new words next week.

Still Looking



Photo by Mike Carey

PHOTO OF THE WEEK

BIRTHDAY SURPRISE