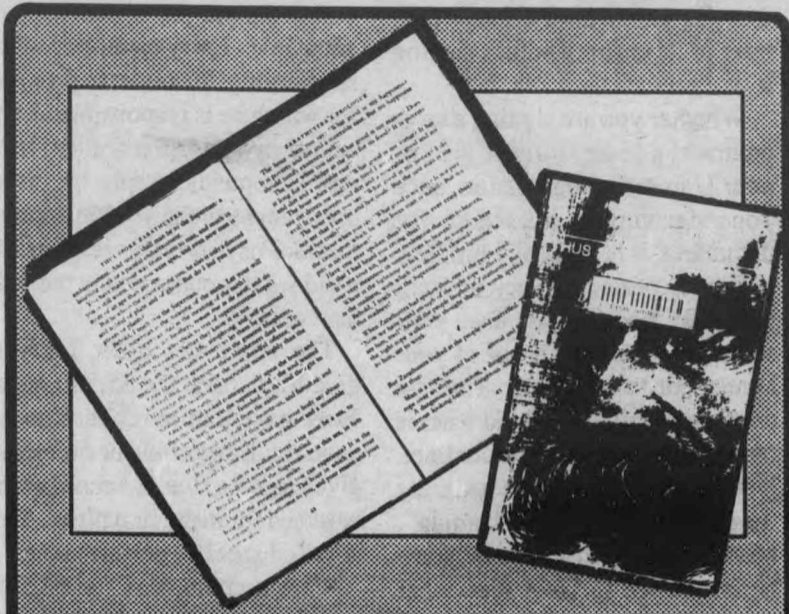


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Women and children first

I am a political person. I have been since I was twelve years old. My dad's second love was politics and in order to spend more time with him I watched and listened . . . and I learned! I started going to candidate's headquarters to watch election returns at twelve years old and my first real job was working in a political party's headquarters. I loved it all back then, . . . now it all makes me angry - politically angry.

The confirmation process of the Supreme Court judges is a great example of politics but we have many examples of political games closer to home, like the constitution, or McKenna's new cabinet . . .

No one seems to have noticed that in McKenna's latest reorganization that he shuffled the Women's Directorate and the Office for Childhood Services right out the door. The local media either ignored it or offered a token statement embedded within the body of a supplementary article.

Not one seems to have noticed that, yet again, women and children have been cut first. Why aren't women outraged? Those I have mentioned it to had not even heard of it. It is not just apathy - once I tell people they are angry. Could it be power of the press? Could it be government concealment? No matter the reason I believe this is another example of systematic discrimination, like pay inequity, or the Rape Shield Law. Some may counter my

comments by saying that the Women's Directorate has not been cut. But how do you explain their assimilation with the Board of Management and Finance, without a mandate. This office is in limbo. Their employees are only on contract and can be cut outright at any time, like the Office for Childhood Services. The Premier could have assimilated them into the Advisory Committee on the Status of Women, (the control of which he refuses to hand over to women, remaining as its chairman). Is he afraid of the empowerment of women that such an action would have created? Does he not believe that even one of the elected women from his party is capable of leading an office dealing with women's issues. Come on Frank!

And how about the Office for childhood Services. The NB government made history four years ago when they opened this office, it being the first in Canada. They had noticed that children's rights were not always being protected under the individual departments and they wanted to rectify the situation. The office was started up on a very small budget and was successful in aiding the implementation of kindergarten as well as serving as advocates for children stuck in the system. Yet it was axed two weeks ago. Who is looking after the children now?

These cuts remind me of

The Wimmin's Room

articles Michele Landsberg of *The Toronto Star* has written. She reminds us that during the Year of the Child, the Ontario government trimmed its per-capita grant to schools in the name of economic restraint; and that despite the fact that parents work to support government their children have to endure the effects of chronic shortages of daycare spaces. We face these problems in New Brunswick too folks! We have a report stating that children go to school hungry yet our government states that we can not support their parents through social assistance as this may lessen their motivation to find jobs. When you're living on \$671 a month and your children are hungry you are too concerned with finding your next meal never mind your next job. And I won't even address the fact that women lose access to subsidized daycare after hitting \$6.50 an hour in wages.

Are these issues not important to us? Does the province need newly paved roads each election year when our children are hungry and women make 67 cents to a man's dollar? Come on voter! Get political!

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day. I located my friends. Joe and Brent, the fellows I knew, were on a team of six alums of UNB forestry, all employed by J.D. Irving, Limited. They

introduced me to Peter, Steve, Darren, and Jim, all four of whom were new to me. Then the fun began, at least for me, they were already into it!

First, Joe and Brent took this great big log and rolled it away from this ramp thing and then rolled it back. It was exciting because it was timed and the stupid log was tapered and very heavy and seemed to want to roll in a way that defied the two guys. Jim and Darren, then took these two axes, you could definitely shave with, and

chopped; first one, then the other of two 8X8 hunks of wood. Previously, I'd missed a few events. Brent had climbed this tall pole, that a father of two little girls had no earthly business risking his neck, in doing so. They'd chopped vertical hunks of wood and whacked down these tall poles which had been stuck in the ground. This sort of sporting event is

like a swimming meet or a rodeo, that is, lots of "down-time". We sat around alot between the events. The crosscut saw contest entailed all six guys, in a relay doing the "VOOOPA - VOOOPA" with a big metal thing with giant teeth, and then all six of them doing the same this with a little "buck saw", like the "VIIIIPA - VIIIIPA." Peter and Steve "kicked butt" splitting some logs and Joe built a fire in the last event of the day from "scratch" so quickly, that if I'm lost in a cold forest someday, I might just wish for Joe over Kim Bassinger. I had missed the axe throw that morning and I guess some other events. Yes, it was a bit disorganized and consequently it tended to drag on as we stood around quite a bit. But, heck, watching all those young men and women (and some not so young men) compete in such a spirited, cooperative manner was just great fun. And, it certainly was New Brunswick, my new Home.

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Important Yearbook Photography Notice

Dear 1992 Senior:

YOU FINALLY MADE IT!!! You should be recognized for all of your effort. The '92 UNB Yearbook staff has made special arrangements to have our NEW professional photographers, **YEARBOOK ASSOCIATES**, on campus for **SENIOR PORTRAITS** beginning November 12th.

Formal portrait sittings will be taken **FREE OF CHARGE**. A set of colour proofs will be sent for your approval for yearbook selection and you may order personal portraits if you wish. **MAKE AN APPOINTMENT!!! PLEASE STOP BY THE SUB LOBBY AND SIGN UP FOR A DAY AND TIME WHICH IS MOST CONVENIENT FOR YOU**

The 1992 YEARBOOK Staff