

BLOOD AND THUNDER

Letters to the editor reflect the views of our readers and not necessarily those of the Brunswickan. Letters may be sent to Rm. 35 in the Student Union Building. Deadline: 1 pm on Tuesday. Usual maximum length: 300 words. Please include name, student number and phone number

Corruption within?

Dear editor,
One month ago unfortunately, I got caught exceeding the speed limit. This was bad enough as I am a UNB student and certainly cannot afford the eighty dollar set-back. About a week and a half later, realizing the error of my ways, I reluctantly went to our Fredericton Police Station to pay my fine. On this particular day I was on my way to Montreal to visit my girlfriend and I didn't bother to wait for a receipt as I was extremely rushed. At the time I thought, "where else could one be sure that they could count on honesty?" For are not the police empowered to enforce and uphold the law, as opposed to breaking it? Apparently, I was wrong, for one week later I received a certified letter from the police stating that I had not paid my speeding ticket. I went to our station to see what the obvious clerical error was, and all I got was a run around and a serious lack of concern for my problem. Bottom line, they blew me off. They said they could not help me and had other things to attend to.

Being a student and paying my own way through school, needless to say I have very little spending money. I certainly cannot afford to pay the same fine twice.

It was clear to me that dishonesty and not an innocent mistake was the cause of my dilemma I am now faced with.

The intent of this letter is two fold; firstly to make it known to the citizens of Fredericton that should they find themselves in a similar situation, i.e. rushed, always wait for your receipt, for there is clearly an element of corruption within our local police department, and secondly, my hope that someone within the department will contact me and 'seriously' address my problem.

It frustrates me that someone undoubtedly had a more enjoyable weekend at my expense. They better have at least enjoyed themselves.

Sincerely
Dell J.

Enviro-Man text questioned

Dear Editor,
In regards to *The Brunswickan* of Oct. 16 '92, p.21.

Although I am aware that you (personally) are not responsible for the 'text' in the "Enviro-Man" comic strip, I would like to draw your attention to a few simple facts.

This strip depicted Enviro-Man crusading for the clean up of our waste disposal. Yes, the moral was well chosen and its message was clearly stated, but

Seagulls, although some rare species are predators, are scavengers. Their "prey" consists of bugs, flies, and thrown away lunches of students.

Any UNB student with 1/4 of knowledge of seabirds knows this. They need only to sit outside the SUB and throw their "prey" to the

seagulls.

I am a very dedicated fan of Enviro-Man and will always be loyal to its feature in *The Brunswickan*. I also admire the art, creativity and messages it portrays.

I simply needed to state that, perhaps a bit of background on a subject is required, before a message should be given.

Thank you,
signed, a loyal reader

Well done, guys

Dear editor,

On the 6th of Oct. 1992, "The Singapore Experience" was held for the third time in as many years. The aim of this event was to provide the university community a better understanding of our country, and the South-East Asian region in general. Equally important was the fact that it provided us with an opportunity to work together as one people, regardless of nationality, race or religion. It goes beyond the success to the event itself; the esprit-de-corp that was so evident during the preparations and on the actual day, and the sense of pride that overwhelmed most of us as we read the reviews in the *Brun*s the following Friday, this is what it's all about - doing it together, as a team. Well

done everyone!

On the behalf of the executive committee, I would also like to express our deepest gratitude and appreciation to all who had contributed, one way or another, to the success of "The Singapore Experience". However, there are a few who deserve some special commendation. Firstly, we'd like to thank Tin Chee Kiong, James Seeto, and Kho Chee Weoi for their tremendous contributions throughout the event. Secondly, to Mimi Cormier and Jethelo Cabilette for their great reviews in the *Brun*s. Thirdly, to the Malaysian Students' Society and Overseas Chinese Students' Association for their much needed support. Last but not least, I would like to thank my committee for their outstanding dedication since this summer that make this all possible. Well done guys, well done.

Gary Chong

Freedom of press and responsibility

Dear Editor,

Freedom of the press is the one thing I care most about. The problem is, freedom of the press presupposes that the press is responsible enough to make good use of their freedom. From the content of the Aquinian and what Mr. Geddes has

said, it is obvious that Mr. Geddes has no concept of his responsibilities as editor. He attempts to disguise this fact by claiming to be democratic, that it is the opinions of the students that matter. This is just an excuse, and not a very good one. In the Oct. 23 *Brun*s, he says that the Aquinian has no policy to deal with making judgments on what material is inadmissible with regards to possible sexist content. This is a manifest admission of non-performance of his duties. The function of an editor is to edit, and the Editor in Chief is responsible for the content of the paper. The fact that there is no stated policy means that such decisions are left up to the Editor. Obviously, from what he is saying and from what has occurred, he has no policy. He says as much: "My opinion doesn't mean squat—it's what the students think." (*Brun*s, Oct. 23). Such concern for the students! Obviously, lacking any personal opinion on sexism, he will be submitting every letter, every ad, every story to a referendum...sure, Dale. The students have, in fact, already spoken: they made him editor, assuming he was responsible enough to do the job.

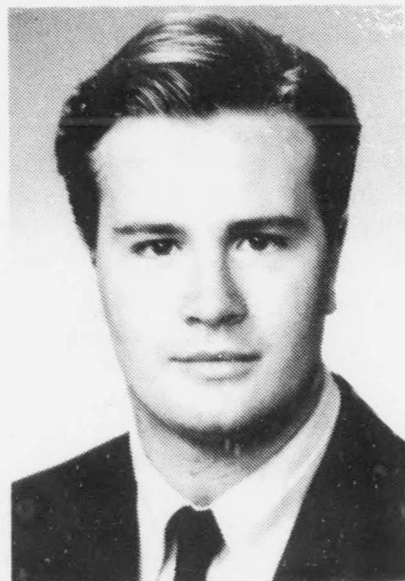
His editorial (AQ, Oct. 28) is choice. In the Allegory of the Cave, Plato talks about educating and enlightening people. How is blatant sexism enlightening, except as

it reveals the character and nature of the perpetrator? I also dislike using the Allegory of the Cave to excuse vacuity.

Now a death threat arrives. A death threat is serious enough that to use one as a cover is reprehensible. The news story on the death threat makes him look like a civil libertarian fighting for the rights of free speech, even if he becomes a martyr to the cause of freedom. Don't make me ill. The best moment of that story is where he says "Actions this low deserve to be exploited." Nice Freudian slip. Having said this, he sets out to exploit that letter for all it is worth. To kill Dale would be reprehensible. To allow him to continue as Editor would be irresponsible.

Since the Editor in Chief of the Aquinian is an elected position, a recall petition should be circulated. Better yet, the staff could pull their heads out from under the sand and realize that the paper is going downhill fast. What I can do, I am doing: asking the students of STU to stop Geddes before an outside agency does, crushing one freedom in the interests of others. The press has a right to be free, but they have a duty to be responsible.

James Rowan,
An ex-Aquinian Staffer.



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