

the brunswickan

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Opinion is a forum for Brunswickan staff members to present their own viewpoints on various topics. Their opinions are not necessarily those of the Brunswickan's editorial board, its staff, or its publishers.

Blood and Thunder

in loco parentis

Dear Editor,

In his Beaverbook message to students, President Downey maintained that "the academic year 1986-87 saw a new beginning for student government at UNB" as his governing council "began to restore order and purpose to student politics".

In her turn, Jane Arnold assured us that we "have picked not only the perfect University but, as well, the perfect Student Union". She also termed our campus "the most happening spot in the country".

Yet the recent student electoral campaign and polling witnessed landslide student apathy, unprecedented irregularities and chaos. President Downey's *perestroika* of the student government undertaken *in loco parentis* in and since April 1986 appears to have failed. Could we, nevertheless, expect to have the official electoral results published in the Brunswickan?

As President Downey stated in the mention message "we who make the University Administration stand ready and willing to assist..." would he please reveal the total of votes cast and the number of votes polled by all elected and defeated candidates. The student body would appreciate such assistance.

Sincerely,
Lana Grimes
Former UNB Student

Women deny Feminism?

To the Editor:

During the past few months, a number of letters have appeared in the editorial pages criticizing complaints about sexist remarks and jokes in the Brunswickan. In several cases the letters dismiss feminism as hysterical and silly. The word "Feminist" is used in a way that synonymizes it with "uptight bitch".

What is particularly disturbing is the attitudes that many women on this campus seem to have toward feminism. "Who needs it? What's the point" and "They're all overreacting" are common remarks directed toward feminism. Denial - "I'm no feminist" is not an alien reaction either.

The fact is that women are underrepresented in labour, business, government, the university, the military and just about everywhere else but the kitchen. No one denies this. Nor does any one deny the fact that women are paid less and promoted less. But the fact that women are not equal in this country and on this campus is denied again and again in spite of the glaring facts.

Women must realize that no one else is going to fight for their right to equality. Your boyfriend won't do it and neither will your father (and you can bet your elected male representative won't do it either). On the other hand, no individual woman can do it by herself. That doesn't mean all women should join a female liberation front. But it does mean that women who criticize active feminists help cripple an effort being made for their own benefit.

Deny feminism, face the consequences.

Sincerely,
Susan Forestell

Hamster Invasion

Dear Editor:

I would like to draw your attention to a growing problem on campus. You see, it is about all these cute hamsters that everyone is keeping in their dorm rooms. They are everywhere! These varmints pose a serious health problem to the students of UNB. Who knows what hideous diseases they spread from person to person. Also, I know of at least one of the repulsive vermin that constantly drives around the third floor of Bridges House in a ball. This vehicle has no turn signals and no license plates and I'm

sure that it is illegal. By the way this mutant rat drives, I am sure that his blood alcohol content is way over the legal limit. Something must be done before he hits some innocent bystander and maims or even kills someone. On top of it all, I'm sick and tired of everyone saying, "Oh, he's adorable!" It makes me PUKE! I think people should focus their affections on lizards and other loveable reptiles and keep these agents of Satan from their homes.

Dr. Gus Lizard

Not Political

Editors Note

This letter was originally received under false pretenses. Upon further investigation the author was contacted who resubmitted the letter.

Dear Sir:

For the first time in two years, students at UNB were going to shake off their apathy in order to participate in a march that would have made a statement to our government. The march was scheduled to take place during National Week of Action.

But alas, our trusty student government has once again smothered any voice students on this campus might muster together. Jane Arnold, in an attempt to prevent the new Liberal government from percieving students as hostile has cancelled the march.

Isn't it an interesting fact that Jane is a long standing Liberal? Last year, Ms. Arnold's campaign slogan (actually she had two slogans but I am not talking about the nursery rhyme) was "not political." Is a President who cancels a march that is in the interest of students in order not to offend a government whose political organization she has been a member of for several years really anything but political?

Yours sincerely,
A Non-Partisan
Respondent to the
\$62 Question

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Rm. 35, Student Union Building, U.N.B. Campus
Deadline: 5p.m. Tuesday