

# 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.

## Gay community a diverse group

Dear Editor,

One of the problems with being part of a diverse group like the gay community is that we are commonly labelled by the images and opinions portrayed by a small but visible and vocal gay minority. Trying to convey what we are about, and sometimes more importantly what we are not about, is thus a responsible job. We must be accurate and informed so we do not misrepresent and upset anyone in the gay community, and we must not be patronising so we do not offend the intelligence of the heterosexual readership.

The letter in last weeks 'Blood and Thunder' titled "Homosexuality: Lesson Two" while being accurate with its information, was very patronising to its intended audience, heterosexuals. Even I, a gay man, was frustrated at the way I was being spoken down to, and more frustrated at the damage the tone of this letter was having on the "potentially gay-positive" readership.

The author also suggested that all those not completely comfortable with gay men or lesbians should examine their own sexuality. I don't believe that insinuating that these people are, to a certain degree, gay, is really going to endear them to us, nor help in keeping them receptive to more positive information about homosexuality in the future.

I realize the author was well meaning in addressing these issues publicly, but I urge care with future letters as we don't want to alienate heterosexuals by being condescending, or by accusing them of being latent homosexuals in denial.

Dorothy's Friend

## Concerned with tactics of PC club

Dear Editor:

We are writing as students concerned about methods and tactics employed by the Campus Young Progressive Conservative Club.

Last week, we noticed posters advertising an upcoming 'open' informal wine and cheese social sponsored by the Young PC Club, and decided to attend with several of our friends who are interested in the political process. The posters encouraged all interested individuals to attend, but spirit displayed at the event itself was quite different from this 'open' invitation.

It was immediately obvious that the Campus Young Conservative Club is a cliquish organization, which tolerates no dissent from within or outside its ranks. Conversations with party faithful developed only along party ideology lines, and were dropped in favour of hand-shaking if they diverged from accepted party policy.

Mid-way through the evening, the Young Tory executive attempted to silence one student attendee through intimidation, threats

and ultimately expulsion from the 'open' event at the hands of Campus Security. Outside the building in which the event was occurring, a small group of these Tories, not satisfied simply with the expulsion of the student, physically assaulted the student and threatened further violence at a later date.

Although the Young Tory Club says they are interested in the views and input of all young Canadians, the attitude they demonstrate in practice betrays the opposite. The Young Tory Club not only refuses to listen to sound alternatives to their party's policies, but also actively silences opponents to their position. We found it odd that party servants keen on garnering some of the seven million under-30 voters would demonstrate in spades through their actions repugnance and disregard for those same constituents.

In the context of recent allegations of a plan by Young Conservatives to manipulate campus debate and take over student politics, as well as the history of Young Tories isolating and neutralizing student activists (as seen with the Young PC takeover of the UNB Student Union in the spring of 1986 with the active support of the University Administration and their Campus Security Forces), it is clear that the Young Tories have an agenda hostile to principles of campus democracy. This is a group whose tactics bear careful scrutiny.

We encourage the Young Tories in the future to practice methods that are more in keeping with the democratic spirit they pretend to value.

Tony Tracy and Jon Sears

## Work on something worthwhile

Dear Editor,

It's 1:15 and poor Liz doesn't have a tampon. Of course this is the fault of all men on earth. If we were the ones that had the curse we would make sure single tampons were available at every conceivable location, and of course they would be free of charge. Every corner would

have a store for that time of the month, just imagine... You walk in and they would have single packs of tampons, mini-pads, maxi-pads, pantyliners and of course the multitude of varieties: Lightdays, heavydays, slims, supers, and the ever popular "New" special applicator. But if this were a man problem we would have found a cure by now.

If I have offended any women, I'm sorry, but you should be offended by columns like that of poor Liz. If she is representative of the new wimmin the only way to describe her is - NUMB AS A POST. She goes into the same washrooms Monday, Wednesday and Friday and knows the machines are open and empty but maybe they are fixed in her hour of need, yeah right! My wife is in her thirties and after she read the article she said she has never bought a product from one of those machines, never ever ever. However she has taken math courses, can count, and can use a calendar to figure out when her cycle is due. She was also in The Girl Guides and know the motto "Be Prepared".

The Wimmin's room has presented some very good articles, but topics like last weeks and "Real Men Don't Drink Coolers" are nothing but a crock of shit. The

authors should not try to pass this tripe off as feminist journalism, it is just the idle prattling of people that have nothing better to do than complain and whine. Write about something that has a point (you may want to examine the top of your head to see what a point is) and is meaningful. Feminism is not the strict domain of women, I have two daughters and I look forward to them doing whatever they choose in the future, but there are causes now which must be championed if they are to have equal rights and opportunities. Work on something worthwhile, furthering the cause of equal rights, instead of writing about moronic topics which make The Wimmin's Room look like The Whiner's Room.

G.T. Clapoir 'Alumni '90

P.S. I've enclosed a quarter for poor Liz to pick up at the Bruns office, go buy half a cup of coffee and whine at the S.U.B. for a while.

## Distinguishing facts from opinions

Dear Editor,

It would appear Matin Yaqzan has difficulty distinguishing facts

One does not have to be Jewish to be offended by the fraud involved in "Holocaust denial".

from opinions, interpretations and beliefs. Here are some facts he may care to consider. Firstly, I am not, nor have I ever been a student at UNB - as my absence from the student directory would verify should he care to check. I am in fact a post-doctoral research fellow, and as such do not appear in either the Faculty and Staff Directory or the University Calendar. Secondly, I am not Jewish, though as verification would require more detailed research, he'll just have to take my word for it. If he requires a label I am white and Anglo-Saxon with the odd Celt swinging around somewhere in my family tree - not that this has any relevance. One does not have to be Jewish to be offended by the fraud involved in "Holocaust denial".

Adrian Park  
UNB

## Brunswickan Staff Meeting

The next meeting will be today at 12:30P.M. All Brunswickan staff are urged to attend, plus anybody interested in working for the Bruns.



## Weekly Meeting Schedule for GSA Sub-committees

At the beginning of this term, the executive of GSA was split into various sub-committees in order to distribute the work load amongst its members. The list of the sub-committees and their weekly meeting schedule are as follows.

- |                                |                                |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| a) Executive:                  | Mondays: 5:30P.M. - 7:00P.M.   |
| b) Constitution Committee:     | Wednesdays 5:30P.M. - 7:00P.M. |
| c) Grad House Committee:       | Tuesdays 5:30P.M. - 7:00P.M.   |
| d) Coke Contract Committee:    | Tuesdays 1:00P.M.              |
| e) Operating Grants Committee: | To be announced                |
| f) Handbook Committee:         | To be announced                |

All the above mentioned meetings will take place at the GSA office located on 676 Windsor Street.

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