

soundoff

FEBRUARY 8, 1980

THE BRUNSWICKAN 9

Brunswickan reporting one-sided and unfair

Dear Editor:

I am writing this letter to express my disappointment with the manner in which The Brunswickan reported on the altercation which occurred at the Riverview Arms on the previous Thursday. I feel that this article was one-sided, sensationalist and unfair to Ted Cragg, the "bouncer" involved.

I feel that the article was one-sided and unfair because it does not appear that The Brunswickan made a thorough attempt to investigate both sides of the story. While the article managed

to cite two un-named witnesses whose remarks cast doubt upon the appropriateness of Ted Cragg's actions, there a number of views currently circulating which suggest

that Mr. Cragg did attempt to remove the "student" peacefully and that the student did in fact resist. These "rumours" also cited that the individual removed was in fact the one who had been breaking glasses at the table.

I grant you that these are second-hand reports but then so were the ones reported in The Brunswickan which cast an unfavorable light upon Mr. Cragg's actions. (The reporter, Mark Estill was relying upon the reports of two un-named witnesses). In view of the seriousness of the situation it would seem that a more thorough investigation would have been called for. The fact that the investigation was so limited smacks of irresponsible journalism.

In defending the charge that the article was sensationalistic, I refer to the headline and several paragraphs contained in the article.

The headline "Student Beaten By Bouncer" does nothing to suggest the altercation might have been provoked by the student. It is obviously designed to create sympathy for the student, whether

such sympathy is warranted or not. To further substantiate the charge that the article was overly sympathetic to the student I refer to the section which states that the student was celebrating his birthday on the night involved. While this may well be true it is totally irrelevant. If it is true the student involved was the one who was breaking glasses then surely the

fact that it was his birthday does not excuse his actions. Since the reference to his birthday is quite irrelevant, I can only assume that it was designed to create what may be unwarranted sympathy for the student at the expense of Mr. Cragg.

Without conducting a thorough investigation of the incident the Brunswickan has written an article which might create a good deal of ill will towards Ted Cragg, who, by the way is a student also. Such

irresponsible journalism does not

seem worthy of the Brunswickan. In closing I must admit my bias

in this matter. I consider Ted Cragg a friend and would indeed vouch for the fact that he is a non-aggressive individual. While his past behaviour does not rule out the possibility that he over-reacted in this situation, it does suggest that a good deal of provocation may have occurred and that more careful consideration should have gone into the reporting of the incident.

Harold Doherty

Brun anti-Bartlett?

Dear Editor:

I feel it is necessary to comment on your remarks concerning the report submitted by Mr. David Bartlett, as well as on your expressed opinions concerning Mr. Bartlett's abilities.

Your anti-Bartlett sentiment was obvious when you supported Mr. Bartlett's opponent in the last election. Whether because of ignorance or good taste (I suspect the latter) the student body chose Mr. Bartlett as their president. You apparently found it necessary to have the final word on the matter. On the height of bad taste and shoddy journalism you have been feeding the students all manner of petty bias and resentment.

As an example, I quote from

your February 1st issue, "someone who writes as horribly as Dave Bartlett has no place criticizing our journalistic procedures" Mr. Bartlett as president of the SRC is quite justified to comment on your abilities as an editor. You, on the other hand have no right to criticize his skills as a writer (as he was not elected on the basis of literary skill) I personally join Mr. Bartlett in criticizing your journalistic procedures.

I don't want you to assume that I am an avid Bartlett fan. I cannot however, see where his activities have been any less profitable or competent than those presidents past. The only significant difference I see between Mr. Bartlett's and previous administrations

is the vicious (not merely critical) press which you, Ms. Wakeling are responsible for.

Your editorials and your journalistic ethics should be highly appreciated in corporate controlled newspaper chains. I sincerely hope that you will re-evaluate your role as a responsible newspaper editor.

Most sincerely,
Tim Bannister

EDITORS NOTE: The Brunswickan did not support Mr. Bartlett's opponent during the election period as he was acclaimed.

oops !

Dear Editor:

With reference to the article "Canada: Yours, mine and ours?" which I submitted to the Brunswickan last week there was a small but critical error which I wish to have pointed out. When I spoke

of democratic socialism I referred to regions where countries have demonstrated the advantages of this political system ie. Western Europe as opposed to Eastern Europe which was mistakenly printed. Thank you for making this correction. Herb Dickieson Bio 5

Female forester offended

Executive Forestry Association:

Graham Savage (CB de Bodine) is to be congratulated for all the enthusiastic work he has done for the Forestry Association since he arrived at UNB. Wouldn't it be great if there were more people (in all faculties) so keen?

However, I was very disappointed with the article "Foresters go nuts at competition" in the Feb. 1st issue of The Brunswickan. I feel it was written in very poor

taste, it offends me as a woman, a forester and a person.

Not everyone thinks "Disco Sucks" (I for one don't but I do think Rock n'Roll is better); it is great that the beer will be cold but what difference does it make to the females you hope will attend the pub if the women will be "hot"?

I disagree with the statement that "the only good forester is a drunk forester" - almost all for-

esters are great people, but it the ability to think, plan, manage, etc, not the ability to drink that makes you a "good forester".

And why, for goodness sake, does one have to forego one's virginity to attend this pub?

I am glad to hear that the Woodsmen teams fared so well at

the Competition - and had a good time too.

A Female Forester.

Announcing . . .

the new
Bachelor of Secretarial Studies Degree
at the University of New Brunswick

The University of New Brunswick will be offering a full-time Bachelor of Secretarial Studies Degree beginning in September, 1980. Applications are now being received.

Individuals interested in learning more about the program and its entrance requirements are advised to telephone (453-3508) or write to the following:

Chairman, Division of Vocational Education
Faculty of Education
University of New Brunswick
Fredericton, New Brunswick E3B 5A3



PHIL BOOKER

"He shares your concerns"

Using Canadian resources to meet Canadian needs - that's the NDP plan for creating more jobs.

NDP

(authorized by the Official Agent for the Phil Booker election campaign)