

# Blood n' Thunder

## EXTREMISM DOES NOT EQUAL ENVIRONMENTALISM!

In last week's blood n' thunder, Aran O'Carroll made a response to my article in the forest breeze called "keep an open mind". I was deeply concerned by O'Carroll's interpretation of my article and therefore wanted to clarify my viewpoint. First of all, my article wasn't an environmentalist bashing session as O'Carroll portrayed, but rather, I said extremism on either side, be it wildlife or industrial, was unproductive. My article emphasized the problems relating to extremism in environmental groups. EXTREMISM DOES NOT EQUAL ENVIRONMENTALISM. Some of the groups she mentioned like Earth-first terra prima are the furthest thing from environmentalists. These groups are terrorists! Have you ever read the published book which was put out by this group? In the book they show you how to blow up harvesting equipment; planes; and "tree spiking fun for the whole family". This is not environmentalism! If you want action, don't dismantle the little guys' machines. They are just trying to support themselves and their families by producing products which are in market demand. There is the demand for wood. If there wasn't, then we'd (foresters) all be out of jobs. How do you use wood in your home? Most people would be surprised if they actually sat down and realized how much they use and abuse wood. Aran O'Carroll mentions how it's too easy to

imagine a world without the Christmas Mountains and Clayoquot Sound. I ask: "Have you ever been to these places?" "Do you know what they look like?" I've been to both places and I've seen what's out there. This is why it truly annoys me when the media holds a torch for areas they haven't even seen let alone understand the situation. Another problem I have with this response is the linking of foresters with the destruction of the planet. This is the most absurd of all the statements. Take a look around, look at agriculture, mining, PCB disposal, industrial makers of synthetics including plastics, nuclear waste, oil leaks ... and the list goes on. When a tree is cut in B.C., there are approximately 3 trees which are planted in its place. Forestry is a renewable resource, not like mining and drilling for oil. Agriculture is one of the greatest contributors to soil erosion and mass wasting. Agricultural crops are sprayed with herbicides year after year to put those potatoes on your plate. In forestry, if herbicides are used it is at the beginning of the 80 year rotation for the first 2 to 3 years. It's easy to knock down the improvements of technology in the forest industry by saying these improvements have only been effective for the last 10 years but hey! You've got to start somewhere! At least we're trying! I wonder what kind of technology improvements these other sectors have? Do you know? It's easy to find the speck of fault in the forester's eye but you should take the log out of your eye before you begin trying to take the speck out of ours.

—Michèle MacNeil

## AWARD FOR STUDENT IN WOMEN'S STUDIES

Dear Editor,

I shall be grateful if you will publicize the Dr. Vicky Gray Memorial Award, which is awarded annually, but which is not yet included in the Calendar.

Field: Women's Studies  
Value: \$650  
Number: 1  
Duration: 1 year

Conditions: Awarded to a Fredericton campus student engaged in full- or part-time study who has completed a minimum of 60 credit hours and a maximum of 102 credit hours, and has a continuing interest in and commitment to Women's Studies. The recipient normally will have completed the introductory course in Women's Studies and be pursuing a minor in Women's Studies or a comparable course of studies. A minimum grade point average of 3.0 in the last 30 credit hours undertaken is required.

Apply: Co-ordinator of Women's Studies, UNB by April 15.

Awarding Agency: A Selection Committee composed of the Co-ordinator of the Women's Studies Programme, a representative of the Estate of Dr. Vicky Gray, and two other members of the Women's Studies Programme.

Donor: The Estate and Friends of Dr. Vicky Gray.

I strongly urge any students who consider that they are eligible for this award to apply as soon as possible. I shall be pleased to receive applications or nominations and to answer any questions you may have.

—Sincerely, Dr. Gillian Thompson,  
Professor, Department of History



## Shaping the New Global Economy

by Catriona Armstrong

This year, 1995, is the 50th anniversary of the founding of the United Nations. As with all anniversaries, this is a time for reflecting on the past and planning for the future; the more so as the main issues we are confronted with as a global community could never have been envisioned by the UN founders. While there probably has never been a time in history that was not considered a period of great change and upheaval, the distinction now is the speed and scale at which these changes are occurring. The Third International United Nations Forum was one of the events held in conjunction with the UN anniversary, and its theme, "Shaping the global community", provided youth from all nations to be a part of these swift-paced changes.

Myself and a colleague attended the Forum as representatives of the UNB Faculty of Forestry and Environmental Management. As we sat on the plane heading to Toronto, I felt a little apprehensive about the upcoming days; I thought most participants at the Forum would be more knowledgeable than I am on international affairs. As it turned out, my fears were groundless. There were 470 delegates to the Forum from over 80 countries, representing hundreds of universities, governments, and non-governmental organizations, and all had varied interests and levels of expertise. In fact, there was a minority of delegates with applied science backgrounds and we were glad to be able to present our perspectives during the discussions.

The Forum itself was a whirlwind of plenaries, workshops and seminars; it was an intense yet exciting three days. The plenary topics ranged from "Education, Human Rights and Political Economy", to "Sustainable Human Development" and "Media and Democratic Government". To write this article is a daunting experience, for how can I possibly do justice to the diversity of speakers and topics in a few words? Nevertheless, I'm writing this article because there's no point in attending the Forum unless its initiatives are passed on.

We discussed the problems; we were reminded often that 80% of the world's resources are consumed by 20% of the world's population. The high interdependence of nations means that seemingly small actions in one country create large consequences in another. Knowledge transfer occurs at a revolutionary speed and ordinary citizens learn the news as quickly as do heads of state. For example, the huge distances separating the Pacific nations used to be the most influential fact in their dealings with each other; now it is the least. This accessibility to information is causing the homogenization of cultural diversity

(you can get a Big Mac almost anywhere on the planet). Yet technological advances in information access cannot directly help those who suffer from extreme poverty, lack of health care, malnutrition, illiteracy, short life expectancies, and high infant mortality rates. Deforestation and desertification rates are of great concern but the machine that drives them is complex and poorly understood. It accomplishes little to blame people who slash and burn rainforests if it is their only alternative to starvation. It accomplishes little to blame forestry companies for poor management if it is a result of supply and demand. I could go on and on about the problems we discussed and even then mention only the tip of the iceberg of the situations we actually face.

It was accepted that nothing short of a wrenching change in lifestyles and values can divert our planet from hurtling along a self-destructive path. It was also understood that the slowness of change in human values is inevitable, yet also a luxury. Primarily, there is a need to change, more than anything, our world view.

My most important personal realization from the Forum was that a social justice issue is really a human rights issue; and that all human rights are indivisible and interconnected. Thus, we must take individual responsibility for our collective destiny, and, in the words of Elizabeth Dowdeswell, "We must

recognize that a crisis for others is a crisis for ourselves...we require fundamental changes in our institutions, but also for ourselves in the way we act and think".

On reading this article over, I find that what I've written parallels the Forum itself; there's a lot of talk about the problems, and a lot of talk on what we need to change, but few clues on how to be a part of these changes. We were told that change will only come from a shift towards sustainable lifestyles. The task then is to understand how we can be a part of this change on an individual, community, national and international level. So, what does this mean for you and me?

At the Forum, a student got up to the microphone and spoke after the first plenary session. She said, "I've just picked up over 200 coffee cups from trash cans that were standing beside recycling bins that were made of styrofoam. What does it take to throw a cup in a bin instead of the trash? We're here to shape the new global community. Well, if we're going to make any changes it starts right here, right now, with us." Remember the old saying that a long journey starts with a single step? It starts with us. Let's take that first small step, in whatever way we can.

We would like to thank the UNB Faculty of Forestry and Environmental Management, the UNB Associated Alumni, and the UNB President's Office for supporting our participation in the UN Forum.

## You can take control of genital herpes



## ...and your life

Coping with recurrent symptoms such as itching or burning pain, tingling, sores, or even localized redness in or near the genital area has never been easy. Add to this the emotional impact of guilt, resentment, depression... a disruption of daily life.

Advances in medical research now enable you to do something about genital herpes outbreaks. A greater understanding of genital herpes — plus the

availability of affordable treatments, and counselling — can help you get your life essentially back to normal and potentially keep outbreaks out of the picture for years.

To confidentially learn more about reducing the severity and frequency of genital herpes outbreaks, and minimizing the risk of transmission through safe sex guidelines, contact the National Herpes Hotline.

**CALL 1-800-HSV-FACS**  
1-800-478-3227

And consult your physician