

# BLOOD & 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, Student Union Building. Deadline: 5 p.m. Tuesdays. Maximum length: 300 words.

## Sic-free

While reading last week's election supplement in the Brunswickan, I was thinking not so much of the misspellings and grammar mistakes of the candidates, as I was concentrating on the editing process at the paper. I found the constant use of the (sic) symbol to be distracting as a reader. After reading a couple of "edited submissions", I thought there should have been one big (sic) symbol in bold letters at the top of the supplement.

One informal rule I learned while studying for my Master's degree in Journalism was that the editing staff of a newspaper should clean up submission, not only in the letters to the editor page, but also for all articles written by their staff members.

If you send a reporter out on assignment and they come back with an article with some spelling mistakes, would you publish it as is with constant uses of (sic), thus embarrassing your volunteer staff member? Or would you not just instead fix the mistakes? One vital role of a university newspaper is to prepare reporters and editors to have more of a hawk-like eye when it comes to correcting newspaper copy. I know my professors would have rapped my knuckles if I had let the submissions pass by uncorrected.

I am not sure how many submissions were written by hand, but there would certainly be an advantage to anyone using a computer. To my knowledge, I do not know of any computer software that is capable of detecting grammar mistakes, but most word processors do provide a spelling feature enabling people to write documents fairly "(sic) free."

Derek Carlisle

## That's your opinion

I would like to take the opportunity to respond to Dave Keighley's Opinion column in last week's Brunswickan. In it, he insinuates that the alleged "takeover" of CHSR is the result of a secret plot involving the UNB-SU and the GSA. Paranoid bullshit!

Mr. Keighley, if you are going to

print allegations such as these I think you would do well to think before you open your mouth to scream foul. If you had bothered to check your sources, you would find that the Graduate Students Association is NOT involved in any secret takeover bid. Next you will be blaming us for engineering the assassination of JFK.

But seriously. The subject has not even been tabled at any of the GSA Executive meetings. You could very easily have verified this information by talking to either your Faculty Representative or the Vice-President, both of whom are graduate students in your department. The other Executive members are approachable too.

While I agree that something must be done to the structure of the Board of Directors of CHSR to remove the political element, the way to do so is through dialogue, not thoughtless mudslinging. CHSR continues to treat this serious matter in a very juvenile manner by castigating the alleged perpetrators in any medium that will hear them out, including national radio.

The GSA does NOT provide monies towards the budget of campus media that is the sole responsibility of the UNB and STU SU's. The media fee that we charge the graduate students is used as an enhancement or extra, to be used for such things as capital equipment purchases. Including this amount of support in your budget is wrong because it has no relation to it.

CHSR is sore at the GSA because you didn't get your media funding from us this year. The reason is very simple. Last year, the entire allocation was given the CHSR. It is supposed to be equally divided between the Brunswickan and CHSR. To correct the oversight, we awarded the full amount to the Brunswickan. It seemed the fair and equitable thing to do.

So next time you feel slighted for whatever reason, you would do yourselves and the student body a great favour by checking the veracity of the information. Don't drag the GSA into any beef you have with the UNB-SU. Look and ask questions, before screaming blue murder, and we can all avoid getting splattered by your mud pies.

Robin Wyllie  
GSA Vice-President

## Let's Have Our Money's Worth

Kindly allow me to comment on the review of the African nite which appeared in the 21st February issue of the Brunswickan.

The purpose of an entertainment review is essentially to go over and examine the event in order to note the excellencies, defects or the peculiarities. What the reviewer is expected to do then is present a critical analysis of what actually took place. This act fills a vacuum in regard to those who failed to attend the show. Thus the nature of the review goes a long way to either win new converts to the event it seeks to criticize or cut short or discourage the creation of new demand for it.

What Judy wrote about the African nite failed considerably to satisfy the principles of a review. So superficial was it that those who couldn't make it to the show couldn't get a picture of what actually took place in the sub-cafeteria. For a night that saw a variety of activities, Judy's work can only be described as unsatisfactory.

The worst aspect of the review was an assertion purported to have come from the guest speaker for the evening. Mrs. Kay Nandall was misquoted as saying African Students come to UNB for a better education. Those who listened attentively to the International Student advisor will agree with me that no where in her speech did she make that statement. What she actually said was that "international

students coming to UNB receive an education that helps promote a whole range of initiatives aimed at the betterment of their society and this world we share."

She went on to say that "while there are economic benefits that African students bring when they study at UNB, I think that what is more important is the two way flow of knowledge that international education brings in order to advance global knowledge, technology, intellectual progress and vital concern with the means of human actions."

If Judy interprets these statements to mean "better" education for African Students, with what institutions was she comparing UNB's education to? I strongly believe that she was harbored preconceived prejudices and thought providence was being kind to her when she was given the opportunity to write the review. One will not be far from wrong if he/she concluded that Judy wrote her review based on hearsay.

We must refrain from allowing personal prejudices to influence our service to the public who pay to support the media. Better performance next time around, Judy.

Ato Eguakun

## The (un)church in the 21st century

Recent works by people such as Reginald Billy have outlined the sorry state of Christianity in Canada in the last quarter of the 20th century.

It appears that though 83% of Canadian polled in 1985 stated they believed in God, the depth of Canadian's involvement in Church

(or other religions) life has fallen off dramatically as the country has been increasingly unionized and the society has become more secular. Billy sites the consumer mentality that most of us have brought into our religious lives to be at the heart of the matter. The church has come to be seen as a provider of services rather than something to commit ones life, time and values to. The amazing (or perhaps no so amazing thing) is that the church has responded to this by changing its style of worship, services and sometimes even its doctrine to suit the consumer ie. society. This behaviour is seen across the board from main line and conservative protestant to even catholic churches. To varying degrees groups like catholic and conservative protestants have resisted societies pull but have done so by sticking to traditional forms.

Neither of these approaches has made faith, or the lifestyle of giving ones life over totally to God more attractive to Canadians. Jesus is often quoted saying that unless a seed falls to the ground or dies, it will value no fruit. The religion he portrayed required dying to self and all out commitment, the religion we mostly find in Canada allows us to pick and choose.

Religion must transcend both society and tradition. Students at U.N.B. have put together the Unchurch to attempt to address this need. The first one was held on February 23rd at the S.U.B. The next will be held on March 29th at 7:30 pm at a yet to be determined location on campus; more later...

Mark (Duke) Crossmon

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