

Anyone who has been following the recent debates on student fee increases is probably quite confused by now. The SRC has twice passed motions in recent weeks to hold a referendum to decide on increases in student fees. Twice they have passed motions to rescind the referendum. As of now both the referendum and the fee increase are off. If the events of recent weeks are confusing they are also very disturbing. After all the smoke and confusion is cleared away it seems that the students of UNB have been deliberately misled by the executive of the SRC.

The Brunswickan recognizes that the charge of deliberate misrepresentation is a serious one that must be substantiated in clear and certain terms. The conclusion reached by the Brunswickan is based on the following facts.

After the second motion to establish a referendum, the executive of the SRC placed an ad in the March 21, 1980 issue of the Brunswickan. In that ad it was stated that "the SUB board has told the director to try to give control to the Administration." This statement is clearly false. SRC President Perry Thorbourne has admitted that the statement is incorrect. Thorbourne said that the statement is based on a misinterpretation of the situation. The evidence however, suggests that this rationalization is just as dubious as the original statement.

The new president of the St. Thomas University SRC, James Haley was present at the SUB Board meeting referred to. Haley's account of the meeting is as follows: "We debated several means to stabilize the finances of the SUB and at the end motioned to allow the chairman and the director to speak to the administration of UNB regarding present and future commitments to the SUB. However, we did not authorize in any way, the Director to try to give control to the Administration. CHSR reporter Doug Varty also present at the meeting, confirms Haley's comments. "The discussions were for information only. Several SUB Board members opposed any takeovers explicitly."

Statements issued by James O'Sullivan UNB Vice-President of Finance and Administration and by Eric Garland, Assistant Vice-President of administration make it quite clear that the UNB administration had no intention of taking over operation of the SUB. O'Sullivan has said that "The University of New Brunswick has no intentions of taking over the Student Union Building. The University is not attempting to make a power play grab for the

# And that's the way it is...



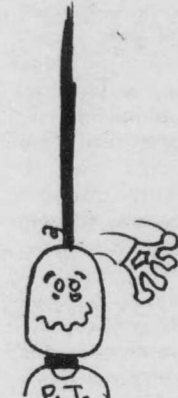
Subjects, I come beseeching your support. The terrible U.N.B. monster is at our doorsteps, threatening our castle. So, give the royal coffers lots and lots of money and everything'll be alright - O.K.?

**NO!**



O.K... But he's just outside the door. Tell you what, I'll get rid of the big, bad monster if you give me fifteen bucks to fix up the castle. waddaya say?

Well, O.K.



HEY, WE ASKED THE UNB MONSTER AND HE SAID HE WASN'T INTERESTED IN THE CASTLE. HE WAS IN HIS DEN ALL DAY.

Listen, it's your decision, not mine...

F'80

student union building." Garland found the advertisement a "total surprise" and wondered what the "heck is going on."

It is not known who on the executive actually composed the wording of the ad. As the chief executive of the SRC however, Thorbourne must assume responsibility for the misleading statements it contains. It is clear that Thorbourne did not consider the statement to be all that important. At this Monday's emergency meeting Thorbourne commented "I didn't change it, I just didn't have time to do it, I had things more pressing."

There are a number of unfortunate consequences and implications arising from this fiasco. One is that the proposed fee increase was probably a good idea in itself. The idea of paying off the SUB mortgage early and thus saving the Student Union 15-20 thousand dollars is as Councillor Libbey remarked "a sound one from a business point of view." Anyone who frequented the SUB is aware that more investment is necessary for proper renovations. As a result

of the way in which the executive handled the issue that investment has been lost for the time being. The implications quite clear that the SRC executive did not feel it could trust the members of council or the student body to see the wisdom of this proposed investment without misleading them.

The relations between the SRC and the STU SRC have been strained by this as well. St. Thomas SRC President Haley remarked that he was "most offended by the advertisement." Certainly the implication that the UNB administration had been planning a takeover of the SUB cannot but cause some loss of trust between that body and the SRC.

The question remains, however, as to what should be done. Several calls have been heard for Thorbourne's resignation. Former councillors Wade Prest and Peter Archibald and CHSR news director Mike Corbett personally stated that Thorbourne should resign. The Brunswickan does not agree with them.

There are first of all practical

considerations to bear in mind. It would be difficult at this time of year to replace Thorbourne. If he were to resign it would seem reasonable to ask for the resignation of the entire executive since they were all responsible to a degree. It also seems likely that Thorbourne will have learned something from this affair. A repetition is unlikely. It is also recognized that the position of the SRC President is a difficult one and that Thorbourne's intentions may have been good, if his actions were not. It is the opinion of the Brunswickan that Thorbourne should not resign. It is felt however that an apology to the students of UNB would be in order.

There are some people who deserve praise for their actions in this matter. The members of council who voted to rescind the referendum are among them. Also to be commended are students Wade Prest and Peter Archibald who paid out of their own pockets for the posters which were circulated questioning the honesty of the ad and the manner in which the campaign was conducted.

Well week Frosh Augu Thank This issue deser week For spoo that pape A f Gov add resic incre last rum Fort D Wh rep to T pro cou the wa fee the dic Th Dear f We'd tunity for the acclim to lesi succes From toons