

BLOOD AND THUNDER

Letters to the Editor reflect the views of our readers and not necessarily those of *The Brunswickan*. Letters to the Editor may be sent to Rm. 35, Student Union Building. Deadline: 5p.m. Tuesdays. Maximum length: 300 words.

We are not kids

Dear Dean Stirling:

I am writing to protest in the strongest possible terms the new UNB Residence Community Orientation Policy, as recently approved by the Residence Office and the UNB Board of Dons. I am dismayed by the shocking lack of consultation or concern of the opinions of the current UNB student residence community and its representatives, the Residence Representative Board. It is my understanding that the new orientation Policy was drafted and approved without soliciting consultation or approval from the RRB, a governing body which is supposed to be complementary and equal in power to the Board of Dons. This appears to be underhanded, secretive behaviour, which I cannot accept as a member of student government, a resident, and a responsible human being.

I can understand the concerns you and your staff have with residence orientation as members of the University administration, but regulations which seem only slightly removed from martial law are not a viable solution. University is a time for young adults to begin new lives with freedom to make their own choices about how to live their lives. The new regulations for quiet hours, visitors, and overnight guests are archaic given the times in which we live and they will not deter those who truly wish to have reasonable freedom of action. As a responsible adult, I cannot accept these limits being put on my behaviour during the one time during the academic year when a resident student can safely be "wild and crazy".

I also protest the regulations for appointment of House Orientation committees, which should be the providence of existing House Committees. The governing student body of the House should be the organization that orients new students: that is a major reason why House members elect those people. This amounts to an insulting disrespect of House Committees.

I also have difficulties accepting the rest of the new Policy, but I will not bore you with the particulars. The effect of the Policy seems to be to create a placid, congenial atmosphere for incoming students. This idea does have its merits and I will not deny that for a second. However, the real world is not a placid, congenial place to live. We all must deal with unpleasantness daily: the occasional unruly neighbour, co-workers or supervisors that we find unpleasant or distasteful, people who hold beliefs of all kinds that are foreign to us, government actions that we do not always agree with... how about a crying child that wakes up in the middle of the night that wants to be fed? Residence as it currently exists is in many ways an excellent preparation for the real world: it does have many pleasant moments, but also contains enough adversity to mould each and every one of us into stronger people. By "taming" residence orientation, you do not adequately prepare students for many of the harsh realities of life.

There are some good ideas in the new Residence Orientation Policy, but

given the methods by which it has been implemented and the current wording, I cannot accept this document.

One final thought: I lived in Aitken House for three years (which I believe speaks volumes in itself) and I currently live in Lady Beaverbrook Residence. I believe that my time in Aitken House was extremely beneficial for my development as a person and I would not trade it for anything. I also believe the same can be said for any UNB residence. The current residence system is not by any means turning out hundreds of monsters or degenerates. I would not see residence orientation changed to the new Policy for any reason.

Sincerely,

Mark A. Dykeman
Business Administration,
Rep., UNB Student Union
Member, Fredericton Senate.

A small retraction

This letter is to retract and clarify a point of view I made last week in a letter to the editor. In that letter I stated that the radio station at the U of M had banned antiwar songs from being played on the air. Upon checking authentic sources, I discovered that it was the CKCW-AM radio station in Moncton, not CKUM-FM. I apologize to the University of Moncton for this mistake. However I still find it appalling that the radio stations programming director of CKCW-AM is quoted as saying, "The fact that we don't play a song won't hurt anybody."—Times Transcript, Jan. 28, 1990.

This was one of the main points I was trying to raise in my previous letter regards the media and its reporting of the Gulf War. It disturbs me greatly when different points of view are censored by the press, which is evident in this tiny example. May I

remind the programming director of CKCW-AM that section 3, part (d) of the 1968 Broadcasting Act states -

"the programming provided by the Canadian broadcasting system should be varied and comprehensive and should provide reasonable, balanced opportunity for the expression of differing views on matters of public concern..."

William Parker

Prof Yaqzan replies

The Brunswickan in its January 25th issue has published page and a half of letters dealing with the Gulf war, and five of the writers have made references to my comments that were published on January 18 under the heading "Modern Warfare is Immoral".

In response to Miss Mathew's reaction that my comments were "very one-sided" in not condemning Mr. Saddam Hussein and his cruelty in "using POWs as human shields", I would like to point out that my letter was addressed to President Bush who apparently knows enough about Mr. Hussein, and it was dated January 1, 1991, two weeks before the war actually started.

It is amusing that the writer who sees "bias" in the Brunswickan, is expressing his own strong bias in favor of Israel. He admires Israel for its "restraint" in the Gulf War, while in fact the United States if fighting a proxy war for Israel in destroying Iraq's potential to face Israel. This destruction was planned much before the invasion of Kuwait.

A meaningful discussing which is less emotional and more intellectual, appropriate for an institution of "higher" learning, would require thoughtful answers to some basic questions and a willingness to accept the truth, no matter how unpleasant. Here are some.

1. Is Mr. Saddam Hussein as cruel

and brutal as the western media have lately painted him to be? If so, how come this was kept as a secret during the last 10 years when he was being aided and abetted by the west and the Soviet Union? Did he become a devil overnight?

2. Is it correct to say that the present Gulf War is a UN War? Does the United Nations have a mandate to wage war? Did it authorize to bomb Iraq? Is it really not a US led war?

3. Four out of five permanent members of the Security Council represent less than one-fifth of the world's population. Only China is fairly represented. Their main qualifications are their colonial past or their military might. They can veto to escape any UN denunciation of their own misdeeds. In what way can this be considered a blue-print for a new world order? How can the United Nations tame any one of them?

4. Was Mr. Bush correct or honest in saying that there is no "linkage" between the annexation of Kuwait and the subjugation of the Palestinians? Is much of the turmoil in the Middle East not a direct consequence of the creation of the state of Israel in 1948? It is not understandable as to why the Arabs would refuse to accept it for many years? And, is the refusal of Israel to get out of the areas it occupied by force in 1967, not the main

stumbling block for peace in the Middle East, and the main reason for Iraq to arm itself and force Israel to free the Palestinians?

Matin Yaqzan
Asst. Prof. Dept. of Mathematics
and Statistics

"Put out" or get out!

You know, there's something seriously wrong with this world! It's really sad when somebody can be forced out of her apartment because her roommate can't handle her sexual disinterest. What is this? I can be told to get out of my apartment simply because I won't "put out"?

I mean, seriously, even though I am only a mere woman. I still think I should be allowed to say 'no' to sex without being locked out of my apartment. When I say 'no' to sex, does this mean I've given up my rights to justice, safety, my home?

And what can I do now? A big fat zip-all! If I had been raped or beaten or even pushed a little too hard, then I could take legal action. But no, I've only been involuntarily removed from my apartment - locked out with absolutely no notice.

Continued on page 18

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New Talent Competition

The UNB/STU Creative Arts Committee is pleased to announce NEW TALENT '91, the annual competition for students at UNB(F) and STU. Prizes will be awarded in the following categories:

- | | |
|-----------------------|--|
| I VISUAL ARTS | - painting, drawing, prints, sculpture, photography, fabric arts |
| II POETRY | - a poem or group of poems (maximum 150 lines) |
| III MUSIC COMPOSITION | - score or recorded on cassette (maximum 5 minutes) |
| IV SHORT FICTION | - short story (maximum 2500 words) (New this year) |

Full-time students at UNB(F) and STU are eligible to enter. Deadline for entries - - Tuesday, March 12, 1991, at the Art Centre, Memorial Hall. Visual entries must be ready for display; poems and short fiction must be typed.

Selected entries will be on display in Memorial Hall from March 17 to 24, 1991.

Reception, awarding of prizes, readings and performance of music will be held in Memorial Hall on Sunday, March 17, 1991, from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m.

Enquiries to Prof. Ronald M. Lees, 453-4723, or to Marjory Donaldson, 453-4623
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February 8, 1991