



Photos by Anne Fraser

Sacrifice to Great Pumpkin held by Harrison House. Great Pumpkin, himself, pulls no-show. Legal action against him may be taken

HEY

CAN we talk??

For those of you who haven't heard, there is a big battle going on, (as if there aren't enough battles on this campus!) between the Engineers and the Student Women's Committee. You see, the Engineers have a magazine they call a "handbook" which is issued annually. Now, the Student Women's Committee sees this "handbook" as being "obscene and degrading" to women.

Those of you with a sense of humor, and haven't seen a copy, I urge you to beg, borrow or steal to get your hands on one. It is actually quite a work of art.

Now, let's be realistic. Engineering is mostly a male faculty. Whether women don't want, or can't get into that line, it's not really the question. Those guys work hard and the handbook is a form of entertainment. It has to be accepted with a sense of humor. Much more, it is a symbol or emblem of that predominantly male faculty. C'mon, every year we all line up to see Lady Godiva. The first time I heard of Lady Godiva was through the engineers. I mean, Lady Godiva and the engineers go hand in hand. She is part of the faculty's history. That department is probably the only one at UNB that has identifiable symbols. They didn't force the first Lady Godiva to strip. She did it on her own. Do you think that those guys would rather be associated with a naked man. I personally would like to think that those hunks are normal. C'mon, grow up. this is the 1980's not the victorian era. I'm not encouraging open permissuality but boys will be boys. I'm a woman and I'm a student, and I'm able to laugh at my self in that handbook without getting hot under the collar. Can we talk? I really think those women should loosen up a bit. In today's world, the idea of S-X is everywhere; (look around). It still takes two. I for one am glad that one of them (as far as this issue is concerned) is the female gender.

O.K. let's be a little wishful here, and suppose that you got your way and the hand book was banned. What about the women who enjoyed the good laugh? Don't we have any rights? You seem to forget that we still exist. Or maybe our silence has so far helped your case.

I was appalled to hear that one of the lecturers for the Conference on Women's Issues refused to answer questions from men in the audience. OK, I admit, my first reaction was "Oh! Wow! That will show them who's boss." But really, that attitude won't cut it. It still takes two to tango (and to do other things!!) and we can both learn a lot from each other; but it won't happen if we stay in our corners. C'mon grow up, there's got to be a meeting in the middle.

As for the engineer's handbook, hats off to you, guys. It is quite a unique form of literature. I always thought that engineers never had time for anything more than numbers, formulas and theories. It's nice to know that their talent lies somewhere else (and if I might add, in an area that's not bad...not bad at all!!)

It's pleasing to think that someone out there has a sense of humour. It makes life worth living. So guys, hang in there after all, I'm sure that even the firts depictions of Venus de Milo or any other nude portrayals, had to weather their tough seasons before they were considered masterpieces. So, "Let's hear it for the boys".

Joan-Marie

OPINION

By BARRY PARKINSON
Brunswickan Staff

Polls: a lot of people listen to them. We have recently seen the effect of polls in the Canadian election; the winner was announced before half the voting booths were closed. We all knew who was going to win anyway - the polls told us.

This is not to say that the Tories would not have had a landslide without our friend, the poll. It's just that something is wrong when a society which claims to be a dynamic democracy is so affected by the polls and media coverage of an election campaign.

So, should the media be barred from covering elections? Of course not. What would be left? We would have a vacuum which would extend over at least a whole generation. Obviously the media has a place - they are supposed to cover events, news. That's their job. But, again, something is wrong; something is not working properly. Could it be that the media is not responsible?

Perhaps; but what does responsibility entail? A difficult question; one which you can try for yourselves.

A poll phenomenon, similar to the one mentioned above, has occurred in the American election. Reagan was the man; he was Mulroney. Mondale was...uh...turner?...I mean, Turner. The first debate changed this, however. Reagan looked old, unappealing - he was on the defensive; the stupor of the polls was overcome. Of course, this was a media event as well. Further, Reagan has managed to overcome a lot of

the age problem by appearing fit on the television since that debate.

See Ronnie. See Ronnie run. Run, Ronnie, run, because 100 million Americans are watching you for signs of age, of weakness. Appear to be in charge, Ronnie. Otherwise, mean ol' Dan Rather is going to make allusions to your age and bad ol' Walter Mondale is going to get a higher rating in the polls.

Can we really reduce voter mentality to this level? Who knows? What we do know is that this is one approach which the polls are taking. For bet-

ter or worse, we (Canadians, Americans, whoever) are swayed by appearances. Policy is not the whole story.

Ridding ourselves of the importance which we place on image may not be possible. What is possible, however, is the banning of popularity polls during election campaigns, as well as blacking out electoral returns in regions where voting is still taking place.

These are not new, radical ideas. People have been discussing them for years. Hopefully, we will get around to implementing them one day, thus enabling our societies to have more open elections.

UNB STUDENT UNION DIRECTORY

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