

## N.B. 'Watergate Tapes' scandal gets wide coverage

It looks like New Brunswick might be heading for another political scandal.

Brenda Robertson, Social Services Minister, has been accused by Liberal MLA W. W. Meldrum of interfering with the granting of a liquor licence for political reasons.

The privileges committee of the Legislature has been looking into these allegations. This inquiry has been dragging on for longer than necessary. The reason for this is that the majority of the committee are Conservatives and they do not want to listen to the witnesses that the Liberals would like to have brought in.

Although Meldrum has been called in to testify, Robertson has not been asked to testify or to make a statement to them. It sounds like someone is trying to keep something back from the public.

The Liberal members of the committee wanted the tapes of the Board's inquiry brought in as evidence. There are according to the Liberals, portions of the tape before and after the official hearing that are not on the official transcript.

The Conservatives have been doing their best to keep out of the inquiry anything that the Liberals want in. This is called politics.

Now the committee has turned the whole matter over to the Legislature. Must have been getting too hot for them.

There a number of MLA's who believe that the matter should be turned over to the RCMP and the courts. That's probably where it belongs.

Of course the Conservatives continue to deny everything, or else make no statements at all. However, the evidence presented

at the inquiry and the information in the media seems to all point one way.

If Brenda is innocent of any political meddling her party had best bring some sort of proof out into the open to substantiate this claim. Of course, if she did meddle and it is proven it had

better be made public soon. One way or another, the public has a right to know. We can't have any respect for our elected representatives if allegations and denial such as this pop up from time to time and they're kept under wraps.

The Daily Gleaner broke the story about two weeks ago after Meldrum made some statements on CBC radio. Since then the Gleaner has continued to follow the story. Evangeline has gone right to town on the whole affair. This is definitely one story that will stay in the news until the allegations are either proved or disproved without a shadow of a doubt.

Let's have a 'proper' inquiry into this matter and make it soon.



## What will be criteria for Activity Scholarships?

There is now a proposal before the SRC to give out Activity Scholarships to students who contribute extensively to extra-curricular activities.

The amount of these scholarships will be \$500 each.

Lud Steeves, ex-comptroller of the SRC, went on record as opposing the motion at the Council meeting. He feels that \$500 is too much for one scholarship and that two amounts of \$250 each might be better. He also felt that no committee of the SRC should decide who is to get these funds. Applicants could be subject to possible embarrassing interviews, he says.

We agree with Lud. \$500 is a lot of money to give to someone. \$250 seems a little more reasonable. Also, the decision as to who will get the awards should not be given to any student body. Personal bias and embarrassing interviews could very well enter into it.

And what is the criteria going to be for who does and who does not get one? Will someone who does five different things, and gets an honourarium for one of them, be eligible? What about the person, who among other things, is a member of three Senate committees, each of which has only one meeting a year? That person can't

say that he or she is 'extensively involved' in extra-curricular activities. But who knows how much was done at these three meetings?

If the SRC does decide to go ahead and give these scholarships they should have a completely independent body decide who the recipients will be. This would be a good job for the Dean of Students and someone from the counselling services, such as Ken Fuller or Norm Whitney. No students should be involved in making any choices. I think this point is painfully obvious and hopefully the SRC will give it some mature thought.

# THE BRUNSWICKAN

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Chris J. Allen

MANAGING EDITOR

Susan Manzer

EDITORS

news  
sports  
inside

features  
photo

BUSINESS MANAGER

Tom Benjamin  
Bob Potter  
Sheryl Wright  
Alan Annand

Ron Ward

Terry Downing

ADVERTISING MANAGER

Rick Fisher

ASSOCIATE

Frank Renou

AD DESIGN & LAYOUT

Pat Kirk

SECRETARY

Jo-Anne Drummond

### Staff This Week

John Timmins  
Jerome Kashetsky  
Rob Wilson  
Jayne Bird  
Kathy Westman  
Alexandra Ferrey  
John Lumsden  
Errol Williams  
Alex Varty  
Coles Davar  
Gary Smith  
Ken Corbett  
Forrest Orser  
Eric Woods  
Margot Brewer  
Geoff Rhodenizer  
Kevin McLaughlan  
Edison Stewart  
Charles McAllister  
Howard Dyer  
Lee Palmer  
A.M. Korner Jr.  
Gary Gray

Tom Best  
Terry MacPherson  
Steve Homer  
Myrna Ruest  
Colin Calnan  
Derwin Gowan  
Lillian Rioux  
Andy Steeves  
Jean March  
S. Gordon Emmerson  
Ron Stewart  
Patricia Cain  
Mike Carey  
Neil Dickie  
Lorna Pitcher  
Jeff Davies  
Danielle Thibeault  
Jean Denning  
Cindy Leeming  
Judy Grieve  
Kirk Gordon  
Bill Johnson  
Andy Kerr

One hundred and eighth year of publication. Canada's Oldest Official Student Publication. A member of Canadian University Press. The Brunswickan, "New Brunswick's largest weekly newspaper", is published weekly at the Fredericton campus of the University of New Brunswick. Opinions expressed in this newspaper are not necessarily those of the Student Representative Council or the Administration of the University. The Brunswickan office is located in the Student Union Building, College Hill, Fredericton, N.B. Printed at Bugle Publishing Ltd., Woodstock, N.B. Subscriptions, \$3 per year. Postage paid in cash at the Third Class Rate, Permit No. 7. National advertising rates available through Youthstream, 307 Davenport Road, Toronto. Local ad rates available at 453-4983.