

# EDITORIAL

## While Nero Fiddles Rome Burns

Guest Editorial by Gordon Loane

Since the SU referendum last February we were under the impression that there would be some type of action, if not quick follow up action, to start the machinery needed for the SUB expansion project. Alas we have so far been disappointed!

It seems that SU president Paul Estabrooks has so many other projects on his plate that he has been unable to get around to appointing a SUB expansion committee.

In last weeks edition of *The Brunswickan* Saint Thomas Student Union President Shane Donovan subtly suggested that he needs some sort of detailed plan on SUB expansion to sell to his voters in another referendum slated to be held next spring.

Put simply, the UNB Student Union needs to get the ball rolling. For nearly nine months Nero has been fiddling.

Students paid a \$25 SUB expansion fee in September and now they need to see some action for their money.

Now that the student health plan rebate has ceased to occupy most of the new General Administrator's time, SUB expansion plans should proceed a pace. We must remember that part of the GA's salary comes from the SUB expansion fee.

And Nero needs to stop fiddling on another SUB related matter. This week *The Brunswickan* has learned that the UNB Student Union, the Saint Thomas Student Union, and the UNB and STU Administrations have not even appointed one single member to the SUB Advisory Board. You would think that having an active and concerned SUB Board would be an urgent priority given that SUB expansion plans are on the drawing board.

Or could it be that failure to appoint members to the SUB Board is a sign of changes to come? Its been our experience at *The Brunswickan* that when various groups fiddle for this long, big structural changes may be in the works. Is the SUB Advisory Board needed or has it outlived its usefulness in the run-up to SUB expansion?

Only the big decision makers know for sure. One thing is certain, unless something happens soon the old saying goes... While Nero fiddles Rome burns.



It's National Collegiate Alcohol Awareness Week. Didn't you know?

On Tuesday, while you were waiting in line to suck on a Harvey's soy burger, you might have caught The Fifth Annual Mocktails Competition sponsored by Team Smart PACC. What's a mocktail? Well, it's a zero alcohol content cocktail. It won't get you smashed drunk but it'll do the same number on your kidneys and hey, there's no hangover in the morning. In fact you probably wake up the next morning not having to remember making a complete ass of yourself dancing on tables or spewing your lungs into a garbage can the previous night. No siree, you're feeling finer than John Denver on a rocky mountain high because you were sober. Anyway, the incentive of big money and having The Cellar feature the winner's drink was more than enough to get me to enter. My entry was called 'The Swedish Morgasm a la The Mighty Morphin Power Rangers'. God may have given the world the orgasm but I gave the world the 'morgasm'. Who do you think did the world the bigger favour? The Swedish Morgasm consisted of a lime Jell-O base, a mixture of fruit punch Gatorade, a healthy dose of Sprite, pureed Swedish Berries and lots of ice. I had over stepped the boundary of a measly drink, I had created a work of art. It appeared that my snot green and regurgitated red drink better suited PeeWee's Playhouse or at least The Louvre. As we all know art doesn't taste too spit hot and if I actually tasted my entry I would have reinforced this belief.

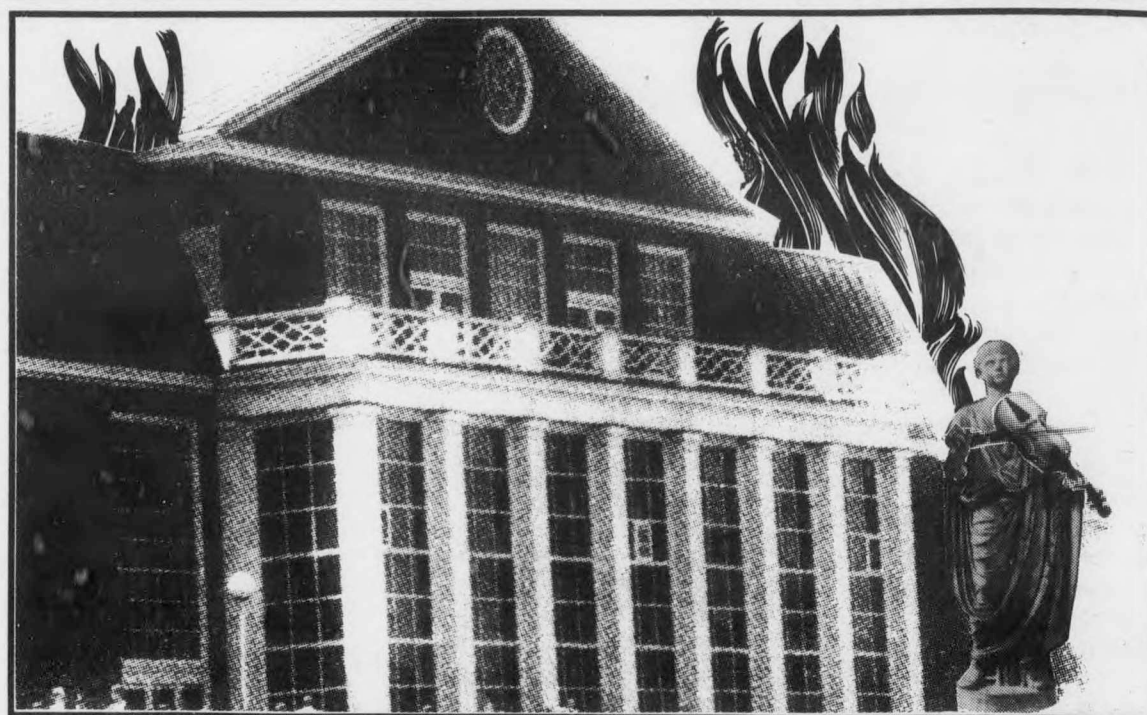
When I brought my Deee-Lite inspired concoction of funk before the judges, I happened to observe a cringing in two of the them. I'm not sure if this was a result of childhood ailment or merely their reaction to the fact that they knew who I was and what potential malice I was capable of. After they took the apprehensive sips I quickly retired back to the Bruns office to imagine how irresponsibly I'd spend the prize money... if I won and to do an overdue assignment.

Sometime reality spends money before you even get some. My case in point is my performance at this year's competition. Out of six entries I finished a respectable fifth. So needless to say I went away with no big money however I did win a medium pizza from Peter Allison's Pizza Hut for a consolation prize, so I didn't come out so bad, just a little fuller.

It made me think that I should have practised making the morgasm ahead of time instead of developing it on the spot. I was trying to enact Morgan's rule of doubt #52. It goes something like this (excuse the cheese); great things are even better when they're unexpected. People say practice makes perfect or as I always liked to believe lack of practice makes wasted time and no money.

You can check out the winner's drink at The Cellar possibly even made by the winner himself. To all the judges and contestants it was a hoot and to next years competitors... I'll see you there.

I went to one of Russ King's homes on Wednesday. The people there are so courteous they let me wear my underwear with my cool johnny gown. I was having fun until a nurse wouldn't let me look at my X-rays. Did she think I could read them or something?



## Blood n' Thunder

### Tories Return

Guess Who's Back in Town . . . The Tories (in a big way)

After being the first Conservative government to be blown off of the proverbial political map in 1987, the New Brunswick Tories are the first to come back. With the election of Mr. Robichaud in Tracadie, the first conservative in the area since 1912, the course of the political winds has changed. Yes, that's three by-elections in a row. Enough to contest the status and legitimacy of the confederation of Regions opposition. With an equal number of seats (6) in the legislature as Cor the decision to recognise the leader of the official opposition is ultimately up to the Speaker of the Legislature (a liberal)

A number of factors has contributed to the quick re-emergence of the Conservatives as a dominant force in New Brunswick politics. The first is undoubtedly the question of leadership. The current leader of the P.C. party is Dennis Cochrane, a young, energetic, diligent leader that people have come to respect and trust. In contrast, Premier McKenna has lost a tremendous amount of respect from the electorate (as is evidenced by the results of the last 3 N.B. by-elections and the ever increasing number of groups he has alienated), Cochrane actually listens to the people. He has been a strong advocate and defender of the public in the legislature and long considered the *real* leader of the opposition.

The second major reason for the success of the Tories over the last few years is actually the point I would like to discuss in depth today. As a young person interested in politics I have found that the PC party has been by far the best vehicle to express my views in the political arena. Although I find it hard to place myself as being right wing, centre or just right of centre in the political spectrum, I find that there is a wide variety of views actually being forwarded and discussed. I guess that's in sharp contrast with the young liberals who are never questioning or discussing the role of government in society outside the realm of the strict party line. They seem to be passionless except when acting as glorified cheerleaders who chant "Frank, you're the greatest because you say so." The deficit of new ideas coming from these summer camp groupies is only to

be expected from a party that allows no room for constructive input or exchange of ideas and god forbid, maybe even disagree with Frank's policy from time to time.

The P.C. youth federation has given itself a complete overhaul. Nationally and provincially the youth seem to be the catalyst behind the fresh new look the party has taken on. It seems that more and more young people have been coming to the P.C. youth because of its openness and accessibility. In general, it is typical of political parties who are in the midst of a strong revival to reflect and redefine themselves incorporating the views of all of its membership. The youth are a strong voice in this process, as they should very well be. The opportunities for young people in this party are now limitless.

Question: "I am interested in politics but am not sure what the P.C. party stands for philosophically and don't know if I would belong." Answer: come and find out for yourself by sitting down and discussing your views with your P.C. youth campus president. She or he will be happy to tell you what's going on in the party and about how you can bring your views to the table. Generally speaking, conservatives are people who believe that the role of government should be to help those who cannot help themselves and not create a vicious circle of dependency by creating programs that lead to the deterioration of the human spirit. Conservatives don't reject the lessons of the past. Rather, they believe in eclectically improving things by incorporating new approaches with reliable ones.

The P.C. youth federation is a forum where young people can learn about the inner workings of politics by interacting with people who have been there: politicians and other experienced party organisers. They help people gain experience both in the political process and in the world of political ideas. Be it policy, organisation, election strategy, political philosophy or just social interaction with like minded people, the P.C. youth is open and accessible to you.

For more information, contact your student union to find out who is responsible for you P.C. youth club. Make your ideas heard by getting involved!

James Longaphie  
P.C. Party UNB Campus

### RE: Homophobia and Gay Issues

To whom it may concern,

Lately, I have read a couple of conflicting articles in the last two issues of the Brunswickan about the gay community, written by members of that community.

On Sept. 30, in "The SPECTRUM", a person called only "J" denegates the fear that non-gays have concerning "recruitment/infection" of younger people (friends and family) who are experimenting with sex for the first time, into the gay community by its' members. "J" (Mr., Mrs., Mz.?) tries to "poo-paw" this concern, saying one does not get "recruited".

However, in the Oct. 07 issue of the Brunswickan, the "Gay and Lesbian Alliance" on UNBF campus states that their mandate is to "promote a healthy gay lifestyle on campus". HUH?? What the heck does "promote" mean??

Sincerley

Dave Rolston

### Don't Publish Addresses

Dear Editor:

Please consider publishing the attached letter to the Daily Gleaner. This may not get run in the popular press but will at least find a voice in your own paper. My Thanks, Terry Wishart.

"Dear Editor:

You choosing to publish the addresses of persons before the courts is both in poor taste and a grievous injustice to their families.

This is characteristic of your publishing history and only serves the small mindedness of your readership, let alone parties who may use such information for nefarious pursuits of their own.

Please refrain from supplying information that is injurious to persons who, through no fault of their own, may be traumatised by a family member's unfortunate circumstances.

Sincerely,  
Terrance Wishart"

**Blood n' Thunder**  
Deadline is Wednesday  
Noon