

# BLOOD & THUNDER

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

## Interesting Coincidences

Just a few notes to make from upstairs in response to last Friday's Bruns. Even though Al Carter is a CHSR member, he doesn't appear to subscribe to the point of view that there is a conspiracy to shut us down up here. Well, neither do I, but there have been a number of fascinating coincidences, don't you think, Al?

For instance, in your Mugwump you mention that the funding agencies (UNBSU, STUSU, GSA & others) feel that the Board of Directors just isn't functioning well enough. Ironically enough, their answers to this very problem, since they trickle down to the day-to-day operations of the station, have been quite revealing.

The representative from the UNBSU on CHSR's Board of Directors had threatened at one meeting to "pull the plug" if CHSR could not fall within a budget in which he himself increased the 'revenue' line item knowing full well that we are presently recovering from a bad year (90-91) and might possibly not be able to achieve.

The representative from the STUSU on CHSR's Board of Directors, sits there as the Chair. He has put forward a motion to the STUSU which passed to hold a referendum at STU concerning the funding of CHSR, even though they had one last year that resulted in almost the same level of funding being continued, being collected in the form of \$5 per student. You can bet with STUSU dough tight in fist that the question will be negatively charged.

The Graduate Student's Association Representative on the Board of Directors of CHSR didn't really seem to care too much and in fact was quite patronizing in his attitude when questions to the GSA Vice President were posed when he announced to CHSR's Board of Directors that the GSA would not give CHSR funds it traditionally does.

The same people who complain that CHSR's Board of Directors is ineffective seem to be working towards its disintegration, however direct or indirect their actions and motives may be. But there is still no detectable conspiracy yet. I guess we have to wait until the locks are changed before we can fear the worst.

Co-operation between the student unions and CHSR is what is needed to make this situation better. With our funding and our volunteers already stressed to the absolute limit, is it any wonder that this opportunity is being seized by the UNB and STUSUs to push through their own personal agendas? Here we have councils who work in vacuums, making life or death decisions for us with little or no concept of what goes on up here. Not just with us, but with other student groups and associations too. I do agree that CHSR has work to do on its image on campus. I have concurred with Greg Lutes on this on more than one occasion. CHSR should have more student support. But we can only do so much.

Welcome to the generation of instant gratification, Al. If it isn't sugar-coated or doesn't taste like "Tang" the first time you tried it, you never try it again. Some students complain that there is nothing on CHSR that they want to listen to, but by the same token, if their attention wasn't caught and held the very second they tuned in, they never bother again.

Justifying our substance and style is NOT the same as justifying our existence!! I cannot make this more clear. This is what we are tired of at CHSR. We are always open to suggestions as to how we might improve our programming. We have a Feedback Line (453-4989) for listeners to call and tell us what they think, we have a programming committee that works on all aspects of on-air that welcome suggestions from the outside, we publish SOUNDCHECK to help facilitate their listening schedule, etc. etc. etc. But you'll have to pardon my guffaw when you say that year after year, justifying the station's very existence, something that has been at UNB for 31 years,

is "not a bad thing". As I have demonstrated, the level of enthusiasm on the UNBSU and the STUSU for support of CHSR is not something to write home about. This is the rule, not the exception.

Nobody at CHSR (that I know of) is unwilling to answer questions about the station. Nobody at CHSR is unwilling to discuss what we do up here and show you around, even help you sign up if its of interest to you. We apologize if it gets tiresome and we'd rather not have to fight to survive year after year. I'm sure you'd feel the same way if it were happening to the Bruns. If my theory is correct, it probably already is.

Bugs & Fishes.

Nick Oliver  
Promotions & Public Relations Coordinator for CHSR-FM

## London Should Resign

This letter pertains to an article in last week's Brunswickan entitled "Funds unavailable for CHSR station manager search." It would appear that Jeff London, as chair of the CHSR board of directors, is not acting in a manner which is beneficial to the station. Isn't this what a board of directors is for? To support its cause? Shouldn't the chair of such a board have the best interest of the organization in mind? To quote from the article, "Jeff London, chair of the board of directors and acting president of STU's Student Union, stated that 'the situation' at CHSR is not one STU wishes to continue funding." What situation could that be? The one where students of both UNB and STU actively participate in and enjoy working at the station? The one where these same students learn hands-on technical experience to provide a much-needed service to not only the campuses, but also to the community? Cutting funding to the station is not going to improve 'the situation'. On whose side is Mr. London? It would seem that he is wearing too many hats, and that one of his positions should be given up. Judging from his statements, I believe he should resign as chair of the board of directors, as he is a conflict-of-interest 'situation'.

Michiel Vandenberg

## A Woman's Kingdom

When violence classes are being offered free of charge, exclusively for women, someone should get nervous. Not to be confused with "militant", "military" is an old historical fact. Militarism occurs when a group of people get stepped on, insulted, abused for a long period of time and one day, SNAP! They get to the end

of their rope and they slip it around somebody's neck. A case in point is the Oka Crisis. The prolonged insensitivity to the Indian population resulted in protest, petitions and, in nature's course, punches. When Black American rallied behind Malcolm X it wasn't about hunger strikes and love-ins: "You are dealing with a people who do not know the meaning of non-violence". In the end, fire will meet fire.

Although the Fredericton Rape Crisis Center and the Female Anti-assault Comprehensive Training System (FACTS) are not the same organization you might assume that they could agree on certain points of ideology. Although a representative of the FRCC, at lecture last year, denied that violence toward women necessitated an armed position on behalf of their cause, the anti-assault system "is available free of charge to female UNB students". (Brunswickan, 31, January 1992, p. 3)

If this system was promoted solely for women of majority age, it would not be as frightening as when a councilor reassures: "Girls can be trained from age twelve up". (Patty Smith in The Brunswickan, 31 January 1992, p. 3) The German government once had a corps of youth trainees. Another disturbing usage is "anti-assault". Similar words include "self-defense" Tai-Kwon-do, or "preemptive" strike policies. A movement to confront violence to other human beings. The intent is safety and well-being, that is what all people strive for. WWII Germans only wanted the same from their leaders.

If you're still reading, here comes the point. (Those who stopped reading are starting their man hunt presently.) It's not that women are collectively plotting a bloody revolt against a male-oriented, dominated and -educated society, or that certain leaders of women-only groups are Adolf Hitler apprentices. A hallmark of revolution is reactionary factions, and we have them: those who abuse and those who get abused. The former should realize the latter has had enough, and picket signs and peace marches don't seem to cut it anymore.

By applying the pressure of violence to women, we perpetrators are not only harming another person, but threatening all of us. If we push them too far, they will take action: in no uncertain terms. They have the brains, the skills, the guts and the woman-power. Although guns are harder to get north of the border, the natural evolution of aggression is from firearms to firearms. It's only a matter of time. Women are getting prepared; someone should be scared. Thank goodness we don't have women-only shooting ranges, yet.

Jon Sears

## Bigotry is Bigotry

I thought I was finally getting used to the hate-literature you folks pump out every week; after all, I hardly even blinked at your column of two weeks ago, when you blithely stated that a world run by women would be more compassionate and gentle than the one we live in now. Nice viewpoint. In argument, I have just two words: Margaret Thatcher.

So like I was saying, I thought I had been de-sensitized to your hatred of all-things-male, but then last Friday I read "...a joke from god" and my irritation soared anew. Thanks, Flame, and congratulations; only five obvious grammatical and spelling errors this week. "...less kinder..."? As usual, I would like to offer my point-by-point list of things I hated about your column.

1) The story you told about walking through Head Hall is just unbelievable. It perfectly demonstrates the paranoia of your ilk. You are all so bitter and angry that you're starting to hear things, and it's not healthy. If you continue to look only for bad things, that's all you're going to see. As Paul Simon once sang, "...still a man hears what he wants to hear, and disregards the rest.", and I guess that applies to "wimmin" as well. I was further un-impressed by phrases like, "...men are such sluts."

Let's suppose, for arguments sake, that the guy in your little story was talking about a weekend of sex. What business is it of your's? And exactly what were you going to turn and attack him for? He wasn't hurting anyone. Especially you.

2) If you're feeling depressed, I'm sorry. That you suffered through years of spousal abuse is terrible, and I sympathize. But you guys have got to stop blaming all men for the actions of a few of the worst of us. If I judged all women by the worst five of six I know of, I wouldn't have a very high opinion of females, and it would be just as prejudiced and wrong as your notions of men. I personally refuse to take any blame for Marc Lépine, the cross-bow killer, or your former partner, and it's wrong for you to expect me to. Violence is bad, but I didn't do it. As to your state of despair, I might suggest

that a trip to Ecole Polytechnique probably wasn't the best thing for it.

3) Your mention of the idea of outing men who batter made me shriek. It's the moral equivalent of autographing bathroom stalls with, "For a good f\*\*k call..." . It will achieve nothing but a few lawsuits with your names on them.

4) If I hear one more thing about The Bare Naked Ladies being a sexist name, I'll scream. They're a great band, and I don't think they struck anyone as being particularly dangerous, so go fetch a real issue. And as for Tyson, let's wait for the verdict, shall we? Whatever happened to, "innocent until proven guilty"?

That's really all I have for now, my friends. Please lighten up, and remember; bigotry is bigotry no matter which side is spewing it out.

Bill MacGillivray

## \$3000 to Transition House

The 24 hour Dance 'Till Your Dumb A-Thon was a success! We would like to extend a special thank-you to all of the participants and contributors. Gifts from the following businesses were greatly appreciated; Trina's, Calps Limite, Perfumes Plus, Coles, Shoppers Drug Mart, Club Cosmopolitan, Pizza Twice, Pizza Free, Greco, Luna, The Body Shop, Salon Signatures, The Image Center, Japan Camera, Radio Shack, Peoples, Moosehead, Walshes, Coastal Graphics and Finishing Touch Hoisery. The total amount donated to the women of Transition House was \$3000.

Thanks again.

The Ladies of the Dunn

Due to space restrictions, not all letters received this week could be printed. They will, however, run next week.

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