



mugwump
by Jack Trifts
journal

THE BRUNSWICKAN 7

sound-off

A few thoughts.....

Dear Editor:

I received a long awaited letter from Jerusalem this morning, and will soon have a pleasant surprise for the Brunswickan.

(Dean X: When the kids come back to UNB my soul comes back to life.)

Sincerely,
Maurice Spiro

Dear Editor:

HOBBIES

I am interested in the collection of modern Western banknotes and blank postal orders. I give in exchange African magazines, books, color picture postcards and neck wear including head scarves with wildlife motifs. Write: F.R. Kandie, Box 45927, Nairobi, Kenya.

Thanks
Yours faithfully,
Kandie

Dear Editor:

I cannot believe how well your attempt to reproduce aromas in a paper worked in your registration day issue. That black square smelled exactly like black ink on newsprint. Congratulations!

A future Bus. Ad. student

Back in April when I wrote the first Mugwump of my career, it seemed like it would be quite some time before I would have to produce another, but looking back the time seems to have disappeared. In fact the three years I have been here at UNB seemed to have gone much faster than I ever imagined possible.

For those of you entering your first year this may seem like a crock of bull, but believe it or not, it's true. The moral of this little dissertation is: decide now what you want to get out of university and act now. Someone once said that your lifestyle while at university is like a point on a continuum. At one end of the continuum is the lifestyle of no fun, all work. At the other end is a life of constant partying and no work. Either extreme can be disastrous. The constant partier flunks out and the constant worker loses out on things that he/she could otherwise have enjoyed. The person who gets the most out of university is the one who can balance the two extremes.

Another thing for the constant worker to remember is that good marks alone are no longer a meal ticket when you get out. Resumes have a spot on them for extracurricular activities and it is often the person who took part in campus life that gets the job. Again I'm not saying to throw the books, just give yourself something to remember in twenty years. It may pay off.

This weekend the UNB Red Bombers kick off the football season with a Saturday afternoon game in Wolfville, against the Acadia Axemen. Once again the Axemen are the team to beat, in the Atlantic conference. But that's not to say that the Red Bombers are not a team to be reckoned with this year. Red assures me that there is a lot of talent on the squad this year, and that the guys are really up for the season. From the looks of the team at last Sunday's inter-squad game, this year could indeed be the year of the Red Bombers.

The first home game is scheduled for next Saturday at College Field against UNB's arch rivals the Mount Allison Mounties. The rivalry between these two teams has been going on for many years and you can be sure that this will be one game where the Bombers won't be out to win but rather to humiliate the opposition.

Although the Red Bombers will be putting everything they've got into the game, the one thing only YOU can give is your support. So get down to College Field early, bring a horn, a bell, or just a good set of lungs and let the team know you're there. Along with giving the Bombers a boost you'll have a good time at little expense.

Red has just mentioned that he is predicting a real killing in the game against Mount A. and a win against Acadia also.

Another group, which is just getting underway for the upcoming year is The College Hill Folk Collective. The Collective is in its fourth year of operation, and in my opinion is getting better year by year. For those not already familiar with the group, the Collective is a loosely organized group of people interested in folk and similar types of music. The CHFC obtains its funds from UNB and STU student councils, the UNB/STU creative arts committee, and by passing the hat at coffeehouses. If you're not familiar with the Collective's coffee houses you are either new here or you have really been missing out on a good thing. The coffee houses take place in Memorial Hall, usually on a Friday night. Tables are set up, the light is supplied by dozens of candles and the entertainment is supplied by the Collective and sometimes by featured guests. Coffee is free to those who bring their own cup; others pay a nominal fee. There is also a good supply of homemade breads and cookies etc. which are sold at cost price. The first Coffee House of this year takes place on September 29, a Friday night. See you there.

While almost universally denouncing word of the first human clone as a hoax, members of the

scientific community are now coming forward with news of their own advances in the field.

Dr. Clement Markert, a Yale University biologist, says that the

first assembly line cloning of genetically identical cows, pigs and other livestock is expected to begin in the next two to three years. He plans to start educating

the staffs of two university veterinary schools in the techniques of cloning-desireable pure bred livestock later this year. Markert says that the clear

implication is that men and women will be cloned, and says he fails to see "what all the fuss is about."

He says that although a human clone would be physically identical to the donor, "mentally and emotionally he most assuredly

would be different." And he continued, "If you were to make 1,000 copies of Hitler the world would be no different. Most would be good neighbors."

But critics point out that cloning would give the state or a few individuals the power to decide just who is deserving of being cloned, with many "Brave New World" possibilities. (Newscrip)

The City of Santa Clara, California is having a severe problem with drunks on its Central Expressway. And it goes beyond your usual drunken driving hazards.

That's because the drunks are birds who get high from eating berries off shrubs planted along the highway. According to transportation agency director Lou Montint, the berries ferment during the winter, and cause the birds to lose their coordination and their ability to fly. Drunken birds, he adds, have caused many a driver to swerve, barely avoiding a serious accident.

Meanwhile, the city is looking into ways to either reduce the berry crop or remove the intoxicating bushes altogether. (Newscrip)

These days there are magazines to meet the needs of just about everybody, from goat milkers to UFO buffs. As a matter of fact, there's a whole gaggle of UFO publications out -- some of them less reliable than others.

The mag calling itself "Official UFO" is, well, perhaps just a bit more creative than its counterparts. "Official UFO" says the country is witnessing an invasion by aliens bent on enslaving mankind. Afraid of being kidnapped, mainstream journalist are ignoring the invasion. But not the brave men at "Official UFO".

It was only that magazine, for instance, which told the world that Chester, Illinois had been looted and burned by flying saucers. When it was pointed out that Chester was still standing, "Official UFO" ran a follow-up stating that the destroyed town had been resurrected that same night by the invaders, and the memories of town residents conveniently erased.

The mayor of Chester says the magazine even offered him "photographic proof" of Chester's recent space war. He said it turned out to be a picture of the water tower at the mental health center. (Newscrip)

Doctors at the Veterans Administration Hospital in Palo Alto, California have found that precise doses of a plant-derived drug causes a significant improvement in memory. Unfortunately, the effects only last an hour or two.

Volunteers given lists of 20 words to memorize remembered more when they received the drug physostigmine than when they were given a placebo. The drug comes from the calabar bean, which is a seed of an African vine used in witchcraft trials.

Scientists at the Clinical Research Center are trying to understand more about the biochemical basis of learning and remembering, and hope the work may someday lead to a treatment for senility.

The dosage must be just right to have a positive effect on the memory. If given too much, volunteers felt (quote) "intoxicated, confused and somewhat out of it." (Newscrip)

The Christian Science Monitor reports that there is increasing speculation among Astrophysicists that in its center, our own galaxy may sport that exotic phenomenon known as a black hole.

Our galaxy -- you can see it as the Milky Way -- has long been considered very ordinary and quite placid. But recently Astrophysicists have been discovering strong movements in our sister stars which don't fit that picture.

The stars seem to be moving outward as though from some kind of explosion. Meanwhile, at the outer rim, material is moving inward. So there is growing conviction that there is a potent unidentified energy source at work in the heart of the galaxy.

Some Astrophysicists speculate that the source is a black hole -- an object so dense, and with such a strong gravitational pull -- that no even light escapes its trap. (Newscrip)

In England researchers at a leading cancer research hospital lent weight to the theory that early sexual intercourse increases

the risk of cervical cancer in young girls. After completing a million and a half pap smear tests, doctors at Christie Hospital in

Manchester announced their concern at the disturbing number of girls under the age of 20 who're dying of cervical cancer.

The doctors say that early sex increases the cancer risk because the skin covering the cervix is immature in teenage girls and therefore sensitive. They also

believe semen irritates, making sexually active teens more susceptible to cancer. The cancer threat diminishes when young women reach the age of twenty-five and the cervical skin becomes fully mature.

The doctors, by the way, did not take into account the large numbers of young girls who are now taking the pill in their studies on cervical cancer. (Newscrip)