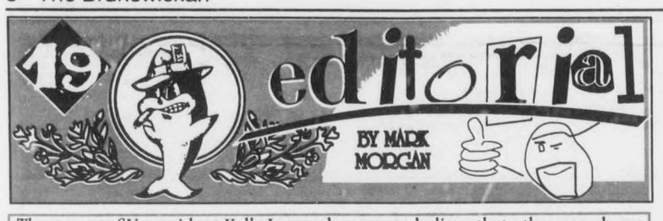

The present SU president Kelly Lamrock seems to believe that other people are responsible for the current woes of the Student Union, but of course he, the person ultimately in charge, is exempt from blame. It is a tiring story Mr. Lamrock bleats each week, "It's not my fault that's Duncan's job. It's not my fault, it's Pat's. It's not my fault, it's Nahie's. It's not my fault, it's Paul's. It's not my fault, it's Barb's." That's where I take exeption. Blaming woes on a valued employee who has a serious illness and who is no way able to defend herself against such blame. That is low Mr. Lamrock, even for a student politician. The abscence of Barb Kirk, the SU General Administor, has been cited as the cause for the delay in SUB expansion plans getting to St. Thomas.

The question that has to be asked of Mr. Lamrock, when will you take responsibility and change the downward spiral of your term as UNBSU President.

Mr. Lamrock has on several occasions expressed his sincerest disatisfaction with the coverage *The Brunswickan* has provided the Union. In fact Mr. Lamrock has gone so far as to issue flyers detailing the trumped-up triumphs of the Student Union. Let us forget for a moment that Mr. Lamrock could have easily used the Student Union page, courtesy of *The Brunswickan* to express those victories. Let us also forget that the most this has done was to force the unionized workers of the SUB to make that extra trip to the recycling bin.

Anyway this week *The Brunswickan* recieved one of these flyers surreptitiously which outlined the progress of the Student Union and their oh-so-selfless interests, that supposedly have not seen print in *The Brunswickan*.

It is my sincerest hope that the students of UNB will not make the same oversight and realise for themselves that *The Brunswickan* had covered the issues. All you have to do, which the Union seems to have not done, is read the paper. *The Brunswickan* stands by its mandate to build a better Union by making your Union more accountable.

SU promotes literacy

Recently, a flyer from the UNB Student Union was circulated around campus which contained a skill testing questionnaire for students. Unfortunately, many of the copies were lost. We at *The Brunswickan* thought all students should be given the opportunity to try it for themselves.

SO, WHAT HAS THE STUDENT UNION DONE SO FAR?
Here's all the action you won't read about in the Bruns!!

1. OPENED the new Student Advocacy Centre, helping students with legal and bureaucratic problems.

2. WON changes to the student loan system making thousands more dollars available to students under 22 by reducing parental contribution.

3. STARTED the new Employment Opportunity Centre, whose efforts helping students find jobs was profiled by the "Globe and Mail".

4. MOVED the SUB Expansion project forward by planning the building and gaining the support of the STU Student Union.

5. BALANCED the Student Union budget again after being left with a $50,000 shortfall by last year's Council.

6. LAUNCHED a province-wide campaign against new student loan regulations taking 80% of student's part-time income.

7. INITIATED the Student Resource Centre, an academic assistance bureau for students offering workshops and peer mentoring.

8. SUCCEEDED in getting students included in the Board of Governors' tuition decision for the first time ever.

9. DEVELOPED the Education Beneficiary Fund, an alternative to education cuts which freezes tuition and reduces Canada's debt.

10. INITIATED a community fund-raiser against student poverty.

11. PARTICIPATED in the improvement of the quality and nutrition of food services available on campus.

12. IMPROVED the academic appeal process by winning voting rights for students on appeal committees.

13. BEGUN the process of further improving CHSR's appeal to students.

14. HELD consultations and public meetings to make the Student Union more helpful to campus clubs and societies.

ANSWERS:
#1–Issue 11, page 4; #3–Issue 1, page 3; issue 11, page 4, #4 Issue 15.1; Issue 19, page 3
#5–Issue 7, page 4; #6–Issue 4, page 3; #7–Issue 1, page 3; issue 11, page 4.
#8–Issue 9, page 5; issue 15, page 5; #9–Issue 4, page 1.
#11–Issue 13, page 3; #13–Issue 17, page 3;

#2– This was not covered in *The Brunswickan*. It was never reported to Student Council, either; #10– This has been discussed at Council, and a motion was passed at Summer Council, but no definite plans have been set in motion; #10- This is currently pending at the University Solicitor's. It has been recommended by a committee of Senate; #14– According to the Bylaws of the Student Union, this is part of the normal duties of the Vice-President (Finance and Administration).

To avoid such redundant excercises in the future, take advantage of your most valuable source of information on campus - *The Brunswickan*

Blood 'n' Thunder

Lamrock blames former SU Prez for finance woes

An open letter to Paul Estabrooks:

Paul, I saw your letter in *The Bruns* last week and I have to say I was disappointed in you. Your time as president left you with much to be proud of. Why you would cheapen a record of constructive work with a negative, empty letter based on rumour and half-truths (or *Bruns* stories, which may be a synonym) is a mystery I cannot fathom.

Besides, Paul, while your accomplishments as president were considerable, money is not an area where you are overburdened with credibility. In fact, hearing you talk about financial responsibility is a little like hearing Colnel (sic) Sanders complain about cruelty to animals.

You left me a lot of good work to build on, Paul. That's why I haven't talked about some of the weaker areas of your term. But you and I both know that you are the father of the UNB Student Union debt. In fact, in one year, your administration wiped out a surplus and left the Union in its first deficit position since the Bosnitch era — a $19,000 debt we had to deal with this year.

I notice you call the mistakes in the budget you passed "typos", Paul, but please, let's be honest. When those mistakes include budgeting less for salaries than the contracts you signed called for, among other things, that's not a typo. When they add up to $37,000 of "typos", Paul, I think you know better.

Not to worry, Paul, we have once again put the Union into the black. We did it without cutting such areas as emergency student loans and childcare. we trimmed back on the frills. Would you believe, Paul, that I even paid expenses from my own pocket to defray the cost of our last CASA conference? You probably know that meeting — it's the one you left me a voice mail urging me to attend the same week you wrote your letter complaining about Student Union "junkets". And you know our spending has been within the overall budget and in line with the expenditures from your presidency.

Most important, Paul, is a fact you and *The Bruns* seem to forget — that a Union is more than its balance sheets. Political discourse is about more that playing "gotcha" with invented scandals and financial hocus-pocus. It's about ideas —setting up new services like the Advocacy Centre and the Job Opportunity Bureau, winning changes from government like tuition caps and better access to student loans, and fighting within the university for proper student representation and procedural fairness in academic appeals and residence discipline.

The Paul Estabrooks I worked with would have talked about ideas. The Paul Estabrooks I knew was secure enough in his record that he didn't have to fire pointless tirades from "somewhere in Cybersp@ce".

We've gotten our finances together, and we've moved the Union forward this year with better services and credible lobbying. One can choose to be one of the people who build something constructive, like the Union executive, or be someone who can only be credible by tearing things down, like much of this year's *Bruns* coverage.

The Paul Estabrooks who was a doer as president would have made a different choice than the Paul Estabrooks who writes empty poison pen letters. If you encounter the constructive Paul out there in Cybersp@ce, tell him to come on back.

Sincerely,
Kelly Lamrock
UNBSU President
1995-96

Every bird needs two of these before they can fly

Dear Editor

I believe that my intention for writing my previous letter, which appeared in *The Bruns*, edition 14, was misunderstood, as evident by the letter written by Laura G. in edition 16.

To begin, I made a mistake to including "Pride" in my list of "articles of no interest to me": how other people choose to live their lives is no concern of mine, and they should be applauded for standing up to any ignorance they encounter and do have a right to express themselves in that manner. I publicly apologize for this mistake.

Next, to define my meaning of "right wing", or "hand" as in my first letter. Ms (or Mrs, whatever the case might be) interpreted my definition, in part due to the error above and her non-neutral view, as meaning "racist" and "intolerant". No. By right wing, I mean the CONSERVATIVE viewpoint, hence Rush Limbaugh "lite". That is, views supporting less government involvement in the activities of the populous, unlike the socialist viewpoint. As an example: governments should not create laws for mandatory employment equity. This actually enforces recognition of "minority groups" rather than making the distinctions irrelevant. Instead, what should be in place is a system whereby ANYONE who is dismissed from a job for any reason of race, gender, etc., can challenge the employer in court. I do not believe there are many people who would interpret this as "racist."

Ms. G. omitted one vital fact in her letter: *The Gleaner* and Rush Limbaugh are private individuals or companies, selling their views for profit. People pay them to express their views, and they tend to go for whatever sells, in other words mostly controversial subject matter. *The Bruns*, and please correct me if I'm wrong, is at least partially funded by money from the students of this university, through our tuition and various other fees, and is non-profit.

However, the way it is now it may as well be just a counter to the Irving's papers, which makes it just as "bigoted", to use her word, as they are. This "student publication" should at least try to express the views of all of the students it claims to represent. So what if some students think that "right wing" articles are "garbage": others think that the "left wing" articles presently in *The Bruns* are "garbage" as well. In the interest of "building bridges of tolerance and tearing down walls of ignorance", both types of articles have their place and need to be represented. A bird needs two wings to fly, and the world be a whole lot less interesting without both "wings".

Sincerely,
Andrew Murchison

I'm not sucking up but good job–just keep it up to date

To: bruns@unb.ca

I must send my congratulations to all of you who have put together such a great example of student journalism on the net. It would be nice if those involved would help the Concordian papers put something similar together. Thank-you also for the nice obit for my friend Dave Mazerolle.

Keep up the good work, don't let it get out of date.

Regards
Lauchlin Murray
Concordia School of Journalism
Montreal Quebec

Sur...er safety cameras and Big Brother-like eyes

Dear Editor

Nature, it is said, abhors a vacuum. You could also say that the nature of administrators abhors the absence of control. How else can we explain the latest "improvement" to the weight room at the gym? One can only imagine the logic at work:

COACH (C): As you can see, this weight room here needs some new equipment
ADMINISTRATOR (A): Excuse me, but where are the surveillance cameras?
C: Surveillance cameras:
A: Well, actually we prefer to call them "safety cameras". It's more PC.
C: This is a weight room. What do you need a sur... "safety" camera for?
A: What for? You mean you've been running a weight room for all these years without watching the users,