

more letters to the editor.

Philosophy prof points out fallacy in story

Editor:

On page 3 of your issue of October 8th the following statements appear:-

"Six U.N.B. students attended a closed faculty meeting at Head Hall Saturday. U.N.B. alumnus Nelson Adams, group spokesman, asked to speak a motion by philosophy Prof. Perry Robinson to this effect was defeated 85-73. (sic.) The students refused to leave unless they were heard. Mackay suggested that since the vote was close, Adams be allowed to speak."

All these statements are true. Unfortunately, their order on the page does not correspond to the sequence of the events they report. The students' refusal preceded the vote: there was no confrontation after the motion, which I personally supported, had been defeated. Dr. Mackay made his suggestion at once, and without hesitation.

I wonder if I could have your permission to use this passage in my introductory Logic course as an example of the Fallacy of Accent.

Neil W. MacGill
Department of Philosophy
SDS and admia both take irrational approach

Editor:

As an undergraduate engineer I feel obligated to express my concern with respect to the happenings of the last few weeks. I find that my views concerning the Strax affair have been paraphrased by both SDS and the Dean of Engineering. This is an ironic by the fact that I have informed neither the Dean nor SDS of my opinions.

I am willing to accept the above as farcical, but am concerned with the results of such a situation. A large proportion of the students on this campus are equating dissent with an irrational, dogmatic, disagreement with every phase of the present social system. They are being forced to act irresponsibly in expressing their opinions so as to be heard

above the roar of SDS and the Dean.

I would simply ask that the administration and the supporters of SDS credit the students of this university with the ability to think. I would ask SDS to confront our minds and not just our emotions, and I would request the Dean to ask us if we wish to cheer the President before asking us to do so.

If these requests are met, then dissent may again become effective in bringing about change. If not, then the student body of this university will be torn apart by two equally irrational approaches.

John A. Wood
Civil 4

Majority of students fed up with foolishness

Editor:

The present state of affairs at UNB has nearly made me ashamed to admit that I am a student here. There has been nothing but troublesome confusion all year; first the ID cards; then the big stink raised by Dr. Strax; then the Liberation 130 foolishness supported by a very small minority of the student body. And I can't say that the Brunswickan staff has helped matters at all. No one has done the right thing all year concerning these vitally important matters.

The SDS should have found something more important to complain about than the ID cards. Strax should have been content to shoot his mouth off instead of causing a big disturbance. The library should not have been closed. President Mackay should have given reasons for the suspension of Strax immediately. The SDS should not waste timestaging a sit-in when few of the students support them.

Most of the student body found the Liberation 130 propaganda a silly farce at first when the mobilization squad kept relatively quiet. But now they are disturbing the whole building the majority of us are fed up, and it is obvious that more effective actions to do something about it are going to be made.

The Brunswickan is also causing trouble. The students' paper should publish more on major part of the student body than on those of the SDS propaganda. I wonder what percent of the Brunswickan staff belongs to mobilization.

I also find that your censor (if there is one) is doing a poor job. Is he asleep or canned out of his mind? Or brainwashed? Four-letter words should be "no-no's" - especially to a public newspaper editor.

The SRC is also off the bit, however I think that they should be given another warning and another chance to prove their worth. If they can, it would certainly be better than a voluntary student union.

I am a freshman and that which has most impressed me, in the realm of students' activities, was the program of the Orientation Committee. These people did a very good job and they must be commended. (We should also thank them.) If all other organizations on campus (the administration to boot) could apply themselves with such enthusiasm and responsibility as they did, then this university would make us proud to call it OUR'S.

R. Guy Willis
Arts 1

Might is right and the Institution is might

Editor:

Here are some facts and opinions. Might is right. The Institution rules. There are two sides to every argument. The people on either side believe they are right. Otherwise they would not be on their particular side. Or else they are shit disturbers. One side, on its own, is every bit as right as the other. One side has valid reasons for its stand which, it thinks, outweigh those of the other side, and vice versa. One equals the other.

Applying this to the problem at hand Norman Strax is as right as Colin Mackay. Norman Strax is right in believing the Institution is corrupt and undemocratic. Colin Mackay is right in believing Norman Strax must not agitate students. Enter the Institution.

For the sake of brevity we must eliminate the second-hand information passers and the shit disturbers. These groups of persons invariably foul the whole thing up for one side or the other, by creating misunderstanding and presenting excuses for each side to accuse the other of all sorts of atrocities.

The Institution rules. The Institution is on Colin Mackay's side, and the Institution will win. Might is right. Without a majority to overrule the Institution (namely the students), Norman Strax will lose.

Lose, however, only in the sense of the battle. His war, his cause, will never be defeated. It is in his heart, in the hearts of those who share his beliefs, and is indomitable.

But so too, is the cause of the other side. However, might is right, and the other side, backed by the Institution, wins.

What the hell can you do? Apathy reigns for our side. You are apathetic. I will not change because I feel it would do no good. I want my 20 credits and out. Got any better ideas?

I was out in the big scary world before coming here, and one Institution is no different from the other. Might is right. Step out of line for what you believe and the Institution kicks your face in the dirt. The Institution is as right as you are. It says if you agitate, maybe everyone will agitate, and if that happens / the whole thing will lapse into chaos; OK, so one man has to be trampled, it saves the rest from the same fate. They're both correct, but might is right. You lose, Norm.

I sympathize with one side because I am a part of that side. I too, Norman Strax, am a little man, but might is right and I object to being trampled, so I remain apathetic. I don't gain much, maybe a little peace, but I don't lose anything either.

That's my two cents worth of opinion, as informed or uninformed as the next man's, I suppose. So what has the next man got to say for himself?

David Peppin
Arts 2

Editor:

Having attended this institution for several years now and having been a faithful supporter of the lavish cafeteria-I have begun to notice some people (counting myself among their numbers) looking somewhat depressed due to the stagnation which besets the student centre at various intervals during the day (allowing for the guilt complexes of students who skip their exciting classes).

I would therefore make the following suggestion to alleviate this serious social problem: since the SRC is wasting thousands of dollars on itself, why don't they waste some more by investing in two rather powerful hydraulic jacks and wedge them under the north end of the student center.

Every hour on the hour the jacks could raise the building a slight amount, causing a 3 or 4 degree down-hill plane—at which time the faceless cast of thousands will waddle out of the room automatically revealing a delightful breath of fresh air while the versa food people would clean up squalor which is left behind on the tables as usual. Neat eh?

James Belding
Arts 3

Editor:

As a new student at UNB I feel it my duty to state that I am no less than appalled at the situation on campus. Now, I had always been led to believe that a university was a place for higher learning, grasping maturity, an institution governed by organizations that were beyond the stage of adolescence and incompetence that I find in the Brunswickan.

Who does this paper belong to?—the students or (management???) that prints it. I've seen the actions of a very minority group played up all out of proportion, cartoons criticizing this minority rejected and the same boring sentences repeated over and page after page. Now come on staff, either withdraw from the SDS; print some realism or move over.

Randall Stairs
Arts 1

VIEWPOINT

what do you dislike most about UNB?



peter clark
arts 2

Radio U.N.B. reeks, the New S.U.B. is behind schedule, and faculty apathy.



dennis richard
arts 2

Lack of student participation in protest, for and against.



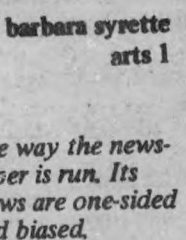
peter dimmel
geology 4

People who have been at U.N.B. for years and never had a swim.



don o'brien
forestry 1

Too many cliques, particularly in non-Arts faculties.



barbara syrette
arts 1

The way the newspaper is run. Its views are one-sided and biased.



lois camponi
arts 3

The authorities version of apple pie and cheese.



cindy brooks
arts 2

People asking me my opinion for Viewpoint.



bet dykeman
nursing 1

The hills.

