

Board of Deans: We're not ogres

Editor:

At this critical stage in the university's history, the student newspaper carries a heavy responsibility: it can be a means of contributing to a rational and peaceful solution of our difficulties, or exacerbating the situation to the point where rational solutions are no longer possible. It should therefore be as objective as is humanly possible in its reporting of events, and it should at the very least be factually accurate. Unfortunately, it seems to me that some of your recent articles have been neither objective nor accurate.

As an example, I should like to cite your front page story of December 3, headlined "Board of Deans to meet students." You state that the meeting was "asked for several times by the SRC." The facts are (1) the Board of Deans first invited the SRC, or its

executive, to meet with it; (2) the SRC asked the Board of Deans to meet it twice, once in a rude and peremptory fashion, once in a courteous way. Twice is not the same as several. The only effect such exaggeration would have would be to suggest to the uninformed reader that the Board of Deans was being deliberately obstructive, which is quite inaccurate and misleading.

Further on in the same article, you state "when they (the deans) failed to appear, council asked that they appear at another meeting before November 20, or face the possibility of a general strike." This is even more inaccurate and misleading. The second such threats, my personal guess is that the deans would not have agreed to appear — but the issue never arose because the threat was not made.

If this story fails on the score of accuracy, your lead

editorial of the same date fails on the score of objectivity. You state there that "As a subtle gesture of superiority, the Board of Deans has chosen their own time for an open meeting, days after Council's specified deadline." Again, this letter to the Board of Deans was a perfectly polite request that we appear, and contained absolutely no threats of a strike or of any other kind of militancy. Had it contained an emotionally slanted sentence, likely to convince the uninformed that there has been some kind of tug-of-war between the reactionary deans on the one hand and the progressive SRC on the other. The fact is, of course, that the date of the meeting was amicably arranged and agreed upon by Professor Blue, as secretary of the Board of Deans, and Mr. Alastair Robertson, acting president of the SRC. To the best of my knowledge, there was no dispute about the date of all.

In the same editorial, you use the words "victory" and "surrender", clearly implying that some kind of war is being waged by the deans against the students, or vice versa. I think I can speak for the deans in saying that we are not engaged in any such war, either on attack or in defence. All of the deans have given many years of service to this university, and they have consistently sought to make it a better university for the students. Anyone who thinks that the deans, either collectively or individually, are ogres or oppressors is simply not aware of the facts.

Desmond Pacey
Dean of Graduate Studies

Faculty not consulted

Editor:

Your last issue stated: "Mackay said it was the faculty's idea to have the president as the chairman of the board of governors". This would indicate the faculty had been consulted in the 1968 version of the University Act.

While the university council and the AUNBT appointed faculty members to the committee that revised the Act, the individual faculty members were not consulted. In fact, the act was not released to the faculty prior to its submission to the legislature.

The university act is currently under the review of a committee of the AUNBT. Hopefully, we can bring it and the university into the twentieth century before the next century rolls around.

H.A. Sharp
Dept. of Bus
Admin

Michael Peacock
President, Students
Athletic Association

Letters to the Editor

A good revue, but not a great revue

Editor:

After reading your review of Red 'n' Black 1968, I wonder if perhaps you people are not being far too critical in your estimation of this year's performance at the Playhouse.

First and foremost, I believe that you have forgotten one important element — Red 'n' Black might be presented annually, yet, it remains a show put on by amateurs. The people involved are not professionals, nor do they profess to be; in fact, there were only two people in that show who have had even the remotest connection with anything professional... Peter Chipman, who sang with The Henchmen, and Peter Macdonald, who played drums in a couple of pro bands. The rest of the cast is amateur.

However, they enjoy getting up before an audience, and they feel that they might be able to give some enjoyment to their fellow students. Above all, we must remember that these people are mostly students of UNB, and they are performing for students and members of the faculty of UNB. These people do not earn their living by working on a stage, nor do many of them intend to pursue this line of work.

They are aware when they are on-stage that they are not professional, and I think they expect the audience to remember this as well. They have given up a considerable amount of their time in the hopes that at least someone will appreciate their efforts.

I, for one, enjoyed the show; the people who were in the production had talent, but even more, they had the guts to get up there on the stage. Those who worked on the stage and those who worked so hard behind the scenes all deserve a big round of applause. They worked for it. They may not have exhibited the "professionalism" that the very 'elite' Brunswickan staff would have liked to have seen, but then, neither did they have the time behind them, nor all the professional gimmicks which make a professional show what it is.

To illustrate what I mean about professionalism to you: one question please. Do you, the editors of this rag you call a newspaper, think that your efforts could even faintly measure up to a real newspaper, even one such as the *Daily Gleaner*? The *McGill Daily*, which is printed on their own presses every day, surpasses in their worse editions the best of the Brunswickan so far this year.

Never have I seen so many mis-spelled words, generally sloppy and abusive language, and mis-quoted statements! If fellow students, who have brought more pleasure to the

student body in three nights than the Brunswickan has managed to do all year, make sure that you yourselves have the ability and the discrimination to correct the wrongs within your own media.

I don't say that Red 'n' Black was great — it wasn't — but it was good, and I enjoyed seeing my contemporaries perform. They have more guts than I do. I didn't notice too many members of the Brunswickan staff up there trying.

Debbie Pound
arts 2

Colin B. is all right

Editor:

Concerning Mr. Mackay's Resignation:

I was really surprised to read that our pres resigned. I imagine all the campus radicals were pleased and content; and all the fascists confident that the next pres will be more militant with those pleased, content 'hippies' who ruined a perfectly good year and the perfectly good name of our university.

But our pres can't be all that bad; anybody that drives a jeep, anybody that stands in line at the stud, anybody that reads the same newspaper as I do, can't be all that bad, besides, look at all the insanity he has to put up with around here. I don't want to get 'la te da' about his leaving like the engineers probably will, recalling an incident that occurred in front of the law school suddenly last fall.

And yet on the other hand I wonder if he will tell us why he is leaving, or leave it up to our imaginations to assume that it had something to do with the Strax thing and all the mess that followed, or shall we assume that politics is cleaner than the games at our school, the games that are played all day long and sometimes deep into the night, the games that are played with rules that only the brass know, those games with the fixed winners, those games with god on their sides.

Mr. pres you know best and if you say you've done all you can here, who am I to question?

Faye Cameron



Let us approve your news copy

Editor:

The executive of the Association of UNB Teachers have asked me to express to you their displeasure at your paper having released the text of the "proposed" motion presented to our last meeting without the courtesy of prior consultation and approval. Someone has obviously supplies you with the text of the "proposed" motion, rather than that of the one which was finally passed at the meeting and though the changes in wording may be minor ones in the eyes of the uninformed, they represent the news and wishes of the Association.

The executive will be making available shortly the complete text of the resolution and an accompanying statement. We would suggest in future that you check out reports with the responsible people involved,

and not rely on apparently unreliable sources.

D.G. Brewer
President AUNB

(Our sources are quite reliable. As far as we can see, the only manner in which our version of the first motion differs from the original is: in the first paragraph, the words "just and prompt" should read "prompt and just". And in the last paragraph (still on the first motion) the words "which branch" should read "which exact branch". These errors probably occurred in typing.

We are not certain how our version of the second motion differs from the original, if, indeed, it does differ. We would have appreciated your pointing out in your letter exactly where you thought the discrepancies were. — Ed.)

Send reporters with teams to cover games

Editor:

I am concerned over the failure of the Brunswickan to provide coverage of athletic contests being played at other Maritime universities.

For some time now the chore of getting these stories to the Bruns has been left to the team managers. Although part of their duties includes team publicity, they must not be expected to act as part-time journalists.

The solution of course is for you to send reporters to these away games. This is your responsibility, and your reliance upon the managers indicates either a reluctance to assume it, or a lack of financial

resources. Regarding the latter, the SAA can in many instances for your representative to travel with the teams, at no cost to you. Surely you have funds to cover overnight lodging and a few meals.

I hope that you will accept this offer and send reporters with the teams. Reading your reports of home contests seem rather anti-climactic since many of us attend them anyway. But the student's chances of seeing away games are slim, and your reporting of these events would be a great service to athletics at UNB.

Michael Peacock
President, Students
Athletic Association

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