

It's either us or them

By NATALIE FOLSTER

UNB Fredericton Student Union President Jane Arnold opposes UNBSJ's quest to have the old university funding formula reinstated.

After reading the report on the Inter-Campus Allocation of Provincial Government Operating Grants prepared by an ad hoc of the Board of Governors, Arnold is convinced that the enrolment based formula favoured by the students in Saint John is inherently unstable and potentially harmful to the financial wellbeing of both campuses. She notes that there is no way to predict the rise and fall of enrolment with any degree of certainty.

Saint John students are outraged at the use of a method of grant division, adopted by the Board of Governors in 1985, that will cut 3.2 million dollars from UNBSJ's operating budget over the next three years. They believe that a consequence of this policy will be a cap on enrolment at the campus.

The issue has become highly emotional. Arnold says "when you start talking about the accessibility of education, students get up in arms." She believes, however, that the debate has become clouded by misinformation and fears that "the students (at UNBSJ) don't realize what they are fighting about".

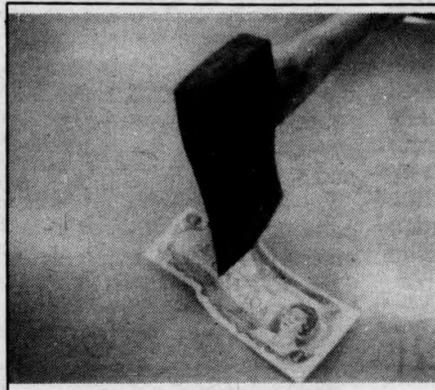
The controversy surrounding the issue has created bad publicity for UNBSJ, and Arnold feels that it may negatively affect enrolment there if the public gets the idea that the campus is on the verge of a breakdown.

Arnold was first made aware of the grievances of UNBSJ students when student union President Tony Gogan called her in December. At that time,

she expressed her personal support for his desire to maintain accessible education in Saint John. However, she says that "Our first priority must be to preserve the quality of education at UNB." She is firmly committed to the accessibility of education throughout the province, but states that when accessibility and quality come into conflict, "quality must prevail." Resources at UNB are already spread precariously thin. "They could have ten thou-

sand students here (at UNB Fredericton), but there is not enough classrooms, equipment or profs as it is."

Arnold stresses that as UNBF Student Union President and as Chairperson of the New Brunswick Student Alliance, she will continue to support the UNBSJ Student Council, but not their tactics. She plans to discuss the matter with Tony Gogan before the Board of Governors meeting on January 18 when they will vote on the funding question.



students axe

Who gets what?

Why?

When?

and Where?

Photo by Dave
McCluskey

VP opposes

By John Olding

The new Vice-president for UNB Saint John, Dr. Doris Ryan, has stated that she down not support the Saint John students' position regarding the funding formula for UNB.

Ryan has stated that the current campaign in opposition to the new formula will harm the Saint John campus. Tony Gogan, President of the UNBSJ Students Representative Council, has indicated that he is very disappointed with Ryan's stand on the issue.

"Dr. Ryan did not consult the students before making her views known to the

public," stated Gogan. As a result, many students are now questioning whether the new Vice-president is only a puppet for UNB President Dr. James Downey.

During a recent UNBSJ Faculty meeting, Dr. Ryan refused to hear any debate about the formula change despite her new open door policy. Faculty members have expressed concern that Ryan's views have been established without consideration of either the students or the Faculty position on the issue.

"Dr. Ryan's handling of this most important matter, may prove to be a serious omen for the future of this campus," stated Gogan.

Student Burnout

By Roger Farr

Last Friday, there was an explosion and fire in Toole Hall. Fortunately the fire was small and quickly brought under control.

Ghislain Deslongchamps, a graduate student, suffered minor cuts on his hand and

arm from the broken glass but was not seriously hurt.

The accident occurred when a still containing TetraHydroFuran (THF) exploded. Dry THF is a flammable liquid and is used as a solvent. Sodium is added to extract any water and nitrogen gas is added because THF is

unstable in air. Somehow over Christmas, water got into the liquid.

When Mr. Deslongchamps added fresh sodium, there was sufficient water to cause the sodium to react vigorously. This was enough to spark an explosion in the flammable THF.

The Dirty Paper Caper

by ANDREW McKENNA

The student council at the University of Manitoba has shut down the student paper. The action came as *The Manitoban* celebrated their 40th anniversary.

The history of the conflict goes back to January of 1987 when *the Manitoban* staff printed the headline, "Fuck, not Rick Hanson on the front page again". Reaction from students was negative while Hanson saw it in a lighter tone.

Further problems ensued when the student council proposed to have student councillors on the paper's publishing board rather than students at large. The board acts as a buffer between the paper and the council and influences the editorial policy.

Graphics and cartoons deemed anti-christian by the student council further created more tension between council and the paper in September 1987. "Letters regarding the anti-christian topics of the graphics and cartoons were not passed on to the paper and held by the council. When the topic came up of student opposition to the graphics, the paper did not know about it," according to *the Manitoban* position paper.

In October, a decision to boycott Department of National Defence ads upset council, promoting council members to insist upon input on the paper's editorial policy.

In November, a graphic featuring frontal nudity drew negative reaction from the readers and council. Dissent came when three editors made a presentation to council before the staff representative presented the paper's case. The result was a decision to close down the paper and install a new staff.

When word of this impending action was leaked to the paper, *the Manitoban's* last issue focused upon "Freedom of the Press". On December 2nd, the student council evicted the staff and installed their own editor, who has the power to fire volunteers and hired staff writers.

At a recent CUP (Canadian University Press) conference, the CUP members set a deadline of January 15th to settle the dispute through an arbitration board. The former staff would be reinstated or membership in CUP would be terminated. Pending the result of that decision, the former staff received recognition as the official paper of the U of Manitoba under the name of *The Toban Gazette*. A \$5,000 loan and provisional membership of CUP accompanied written support for *the Toban Gazette*.

The Toban Gazette is now being published underground out of the offices of *The Uniter*, the U of Winnipeg student paper. Media coverage in favor of the underground paper has aided in soliciting advertising that previously went to *the Manitoban*.

However, the U of Manitoba move has left more than the student paper in limbo. The new editor of *the Manitoban* left his post as editor of a local magazine called *Network*. The typesetter of the publication is a member of CUP. Pending a staff decision of Uniter staff, *Network* may be looking for a new typesetter at a higher price.

The arbitration board is questionable in it's mandate. "It is too late to change the present staff of *the Manitoban* as they are already in place," stated Bob Cielin, a member of the Manitoban Publishing Board. "We are looking at other press wire services."

"If the results of the arbitration board are not in support of *the Toban Gazette*, we (the *Toban Gazette*) will continue to

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