

Flashback: the Strax affair

By CAMPBELL MORRISON
Brunswickan Staff
Dr. Norman Strax, a physics professor, was the key figure in the I.D. card affair of fifteen years ago. His affiliation with the primarily disruptive organization Struggle for a Democratic Society, or SDS, and the fact that he was present on the three occasions when there was conflict in the library over the use of I.D. cards, seemed to implicate him in the entire disciplinary problem. At least, that was how UNB President, Colin B. MacKay saw the incidents.

On the Tuesday following the weekend of confrontation, the university took action. President MacKay suspended Strax; he gave no reason for the suspension however, and that seemed unfair to the many students who supported Strax.

The students supported Strax over the university because he was acting on their behalf. His and their cause were the same, but he was being suspended for his actions.

Part of Strax's suspension was that he leave the university grounds and vacate his office within twenty-four hours. In reaction, the students occupied and held his office, 130 Loring Bailey Hall, for some weeks after. The action became known as Liberation 130, and attracted national news coverage by the CBC.

Basically, the arguments were thus: that Strax was being unfairly suspended for his beliefs concerning

the implications of I.D. cards; but the university was suspending Strax for "disrupting the normal work and activity of the university, especially of the operation of the library." While Strax and SDS were espousing ideals concerning freedom of thought and belief, the university was acting on the way Strax made his ideas known.

The university took legal action to remove Strax from his office, but Strax did not show up for his day in court, and was later charged one dollar plus expenses for contempt of court.

The nation wide coverage of the incidents created

more tension that would have otherwise not existed. The protests, counter-protests (put on by the many students who opposed Strax), and sit-ins took on much larger proportions than the real incident called for. The debate began over identification cards, then became part of the suspension of Norman Strax, and finally became entangled in a debate over freedom of thought in action, and the position of the individual within a large institution.

Truly, this is one case where the proverbial "spark" touch off deeper rifts withing a changing educational institution.

BBA programs

The faculty of administration at The University of New Brunswick in Fredericton will offer a sneak preview of graduate programs in administration available in Canada and the U.S.

Those interested in studying for a Master of Business Administration degree are invited to attend the informational seminar on Thursday, November 17 at 7:30 p.m. in Tilley Hall, room 325.

A number of UNB faculty will be present. James Tolliver will speak on "How to Select a Graduate Program" and Andrew Templar will advise on how to take the Graduate Management Admission Test (GMAT). Barrie Riome will offer a survey of MBA programs, while Dorothy MacNaught

will explain how to combine the MBA with a law degree. Andrew Templar will also describe the Master of Public Administration degree offered at UNB and elsewhere.

Don Harriman, coordinator of health services for the province, will discuss administration of health care programs. Heather Davey, UNB counselling services, will outline the assistance available from her department.

Graduate programs in administration are normally two-year professional programs for those with an undergraduate degree in any discipline. Those already holding an undergraduate business or commerce degree may qualify for an exemption from all or part of the first year of the program.

JACK M'CLOSKEY'S CANADIAN WILDLIFE



AS PROMISED, HERE'S THE FIRST OF A SERIES OF ARTICLES ON DIFFERENT ANIMAL GROUPS. BEING A DEMOCRATIC TYPE OF GUY, I FIGGER I SHOULD DO THE GROUP WITH THE MOST SPECIES FIRST. THAT IS, A COURSE, INSECTS. THERE'S OVER 800,000 KNOWN TYPES AND 7000 TO 10,000 MORE IS DISCOVERED EACH YEAR. SO DON'T WORRY, THAT THING UNDER YER BED PROBABLY AIN'T A MONSTER (PROBABLY), IT'S JUST A NEW INSECT. YER AVERAGE INSECT HAS THREE BODY PARTS (HEAD, THORAX, ABDOMEN), SIX LEGS, ANY NUMBER OF EYES, ANTENNAS, AN' FOUR WINGS. NOW, ONE OF YER MORE POP'LAR INSECTS, THE ANT, AIN'T GOT NO WINGS. HOWEVER, FLYIN' ANTS IS AN EXCEPTION TO THE EXCEPTION. MOST INSECTS SNEELL WITH THEIR ANTENNAS, SOME TASTE WITH THEIR FEET (MAKES YA FEEL SORRY FOR FLIES ON YOD-KODW-WHAT, DON'T IT?), AN' SOME HEAR WITH BODY HAIRS! AN' YU THOUGHT PLATYPOSES WAS SCREWED UP!

INSECTS IS VERY STRONG. IF PEOPLE WAS AS PROPORTIONALLY AS STRONG AS BUGS, A MAN COULD PICK UP FOUR TONS—WITH HIS TEETH. RIGHT NOW ONLY A FEW MEN CAN DO THAT. AN' THEY GOT THE BRAINS OF AN INSECT.

THE OVERALL POSITION OF INSECTS IN THE BIG PICTURE IS TO GIVE PEOPLE SOMETHIN' TO SQUASH, AND TO GIVE KIDS SOMETHIN' TO EAT WITH THEIR DIRT.



The St. Thomas University Guest Lecture Committee invites you to hear:

The Honourable Mark MacGuigan
Minister of Justice
speak on

THE CONSTITUTION
AND ITS EFFECTS ON
MINORITY RIGHTS

DATE: Monday, Nov. 7, 1983

TIME: 2:30 p.m.

PLACE: Edmund Casey Auditorium

ADMISSION FREE

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