



Does anyone out there know how difficult it is to write an editorial? I don't really think so. In an editorial you try to present a point of view and you substantiate your opinion with facts and reliable sources. If you don't then a multitude of problems may arise. Everything from loss of credibility, (the Bruns is credible?) to actual court action, I mean being sued.

This is where the editor must watch his or her or our step. Sources must be verified before hearsay can be included. It is a dangerous thing for a news paper to make accusations in an editorial unless the facts are known.

Topics for editorials are as various as personalities. They can range from attacks on chemical companies to singing the praises of just about anything, even Christmas.

The actual writing is a different story (pardon the pun). Writers of editorials often suffer from a condition known as writers block, which I am suffering from right now. This often causes great wastes of paper due to frustration and many great beginnings, so, so middles and mundane endings. Unfortunately, as well, so few things of vast importance happen on campus that

the same issues are hashed and re-hashed, stated and re-stated, over and over and over...

That is not to say, however, that editorials serve no purpose, they help to shed light on questions that arise concerning the population here at UNB, and as well, serve to inform students on issues which concern us all.

We at the Bruns often have access to more information than the average student and as well we are composed of students from various backgrounds and beliefs. This, then gives us a fairly broad outlook on problems and and questions and so we continue to write our editorials.

And now to those people who nit-pick our editorials to death. OK sometimes we include some wrong information, and you must remember we are presenting our OPINION. This is not to say we don't appreciate responses, we love responses (intelligent responses), for this is the reason we write editorials. We here at the Bruns are (or at least try to be) open minded, any differing opinions are recognized and debated.

To us, people do not really understand what goes into the preparation of an Editorial. Research is done on the chosen topic, articles, interviews, leg work and sore fingers from dialing (or punching) depending on what type of phone you have. Correlation of all the collected information, verification of sources and facts, and then hours staring at the uncooperative typewriter and finally the finished product, only to be torn apart by our colleagues and a re-write demanded. Then the whole process is repeated.

People coming into your semi private office to complain talk or ask questions don't help the editorial writer in any way. Interruptions when on a train of thought (heh, heh, heh) only add to the problem. To try to regain the lucidity of your sentence or paragraph about the lack of parking space available after being asked to give a phone interview to the CBC on Sexual Harassment is indescribably difficult if you get my drift. Radicals invading your space and demanding their articles be accepted or omitted don't really help either. I do recall writing an editorial taking a stand on a certain issue and having a person from the opposite side convinc-

ing me that I was wrong in my point of view, facts, and that my sources were lying to me. That was, needless to say, very frustrating.

Some people here at the Bruns have an allergic condition when it comes to editorial writing. They are able to suggest topics and seem to know a great deal about them, but when asked to put them on paper would sooner kiss a leper. Of course there is also the person who agrees to write the editorial and knows nothing about what it is he is doing or just doesn't write it and at the last minute the thing is rattled off. A question I ask is: "what is a newspaper without an editorial?" (don't answer), but it would look kind of funny to see a blank page (good idea, then you can write your own and submit it, must write that down for next year).

Well, I hope that this editorial helped to shed some light on the problems we face from week to week in editorial writing. Besides it is our one and only chance to get back at all the nasty, little nit pickers in Sound Off each week!

Have a good summer and best of luck to all graduates!