

Political Perspectives

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Brunswickan Staff

This week's Political Perspectives was first published last year in the Christmas Bruns. Issue. It was very much enjoyed and we thought that we should print it again.

Each year about this time societies spend-thrift masses mobilize themselves for the onslaught of Christmas and stockpile the necessary gifts and spirits for the festive season. This year, however, the spirit could be dampened due to the unprecedented ideological conflict at the North Pole!

It seems that Christmas has been infiltrated by a unionist plot to disrupt the supply of necessary toys and high technology knick-knacks from arriving in the homes of children world-wide.

Most of the elves as we know, are seasonally employed. Due to the modernization of machinery Santa was able to cut his labor time in half and thus only needed his elves for two months of intensive assembly line work.

In our society two months is not enough to be eligible for Unemployment Insurance Benefits and thus many of the elves ended up on welfare. The North Pole being a one industry town had seen its sole source of income depleted to starvation levels.

Many of the elves began to drink heavily and hang out at a local bar owned by one of Santa's former assembly line foremen who's name was Rudolph.

Anyhow Rudolph realized the situation was ripe for a takeover of Santa's monopoly in the Christmas toy market. Rudolph began to pass rumours that Santa was planning on computerizing the assembly line and making all the toys by the machine. The elves were now in an awful state of panic and called an emergency meeting at Rudolph's Bar and Grill. Rudolph with the help of 2 or 3 of the more radical workers was able to take over the meeting and get elected as spokesman for the elves.

The first thing he did was to form a union and called for a general strike. The elves although not unanimous were desperate and voted in favour of a walk-out. Santa was furious over this development and called the best labour negotiator available. This man was Brian Mulroney, a hard nosed veteran of labour politics. Mulroney called both parties to the negotiating table and tried to speed the process by noting that Christmas was only 27 days away and if a consensus was not reached many children would be devastated.

Rudolph said the elves would be back to work if Santa agreed to stop all mechanization and thus renew the 4 month work period and eligibility for stamps. Santa was furious and explained how transportation costs and the high price of reindeer fuel forced him to mechanize in the first place to remain competitive with Japanese imitators who were slowly moving into the market. Rudolph however, would not budge!

Santa at this point, was desperate and needed some sort of propaganda expert to run a smear campaign against Rudolph and the Union Movement. He had heard of a farmer from Wisconsin who was an expert at de-legitimizing ideological movements, his name was Joe McCarthy. McCarthy arrived at the North Pole and immediately went to Rudolph's disguised as a toy manufacturer, he began to strike up conversation with some of the weaker elves and had connections in Moscow and Peking. Of course, these rumours spread like wildfire and Rudolph came under fire from the right wing of the elf's union membership. A vote of non-confidence was put and Rudolph was banished to a straight membership role. At this point the union was split and could not come up with any type of concrete proposals. Their union strike funds had run out and they desperately needed money. Some of the older elves suggested they go back to work and negotiate again after Christmas. The rest of the elves agreed and decided to work overtime to meet the time lost during the strike.

Santa was pleased with the outcome and as a gesture of gratitude offered all of the elves (except Rudolph) one more month of work to allow them to be eligible for Unemployment Benefits once more. So for the time being the threat of a toy-less Christmas has been put out.

Rudolph, after becoming a social outcast, moved to New York and opened up a new bar, Mulroney became a national hero and was praised as the Saviour of Christmas and McCarthy went to El Salvador to faithfully up-root communists. As for the toys, they will arrive on time although due to the disruption they may be a bit more expensive this year!

I can't believe the council sat through the whole thing...

(CHSR)

UNB Student Union President Elect Larry Fox is refusing to resign from the SUB Board of Trustees, as was called for at last night's marathon 5 1/2 hour SRC meeting. Chairman Michael Bennett was forced to cast the deciding vote in a motion calling for the resignation of all UNB Students from the Board of Trustees and creating a new SUB Board consisting of Fox and the SRC executive. Fox said that since the vote was so close, and that he felt that he could serve a valuable role on

the Board of Trustees, he would not resign.

Council passed several motions concerning the Administration's effort to prevent the CSL Exchange store from selling food. Council overwhelmingly passed a motion supporting the CSL Exchange and calling on Dr. Downey and his Board of Trustees to respect the wishes of the students. Council also unanimously delegated Fox and Vice President Services Spurles to negotiate the continued full operation of the Exchange. If that fails, the SRC

approved a motion calling for the executive to take other steps, including legal action, to continue full operation of the Exchange. Earlier in the

meeting, Student Union President John Bosnitch had proposed a set of four legal actions

against the Administration but this was the only one passed. The others also concerned ac-

tions taken by the Board of Governors upon the recommendation of the SUB Board of Trustees.

Catch the Drift: Snowbash '85

Snowbash, formerly called Winter Carnival, is a celebration of winter. Snowbash will be held from January 23-26.

The few days of Snowbash will be packed with exciting events. The highlights include a spectacular fireworks display, followed by the immensely popular Mr. UNB pageant on Wednesday.

Thursday features a Cosmo Night with dozens of prizes.

Friday's big event is music videos in the SUB cafeteria, followed by all-night movies in Tilley, Rm. 102.

Saturday is the date for the parade, which will be the biggest and best in years. The Carnival culminates Saturday night with an Extravaganza co-sponsored by the Inter-Residence social committee.

Organizations are encouraged to enter the snow sculpture competition and parade. Prize money for participation in these two events total \$600.

Everyone is urged to participate. Any questions about the carnival can be answered at the SRC office.

Snowbash '85 - Catch the drift!

VICE PRESIDENT ADMINISTRATION

Three(3) councillors and three(3) students-at-large are needed to serve as members of the Administration Commission. The Administration Commission will be dealing with various aspects of the constitutions of organizations seeking recognition by the S.R.C. The Regulations and By-Laws of the S.R.C. will also be looked at by the Administration Commission. There will be one (1) meeting a week. Applications or resumes may be submitted to:

LARRY LONG
Vice President (Administration)
UNB Student Union Office
SUB

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