

# The Brunswickan

By SUSAN MANZER

It all started innocently.

Or as innocent as anything connected with the Brunswickan could be.

I didn't work for the paper my first year at UNB because nobody asked me to...and it wasn't until I met Edison that I thought about it (and even then I had my doubts).

But one thing led to another and in September I found myself in the midst of the "dirty thirty" plus in Room 35.

I'll admit I was a little wary of the deal at first, after all I didn't know anyone or what to expect. But Edison guaranteed the parties are the best on campus... and you should never turn down a good party...

Needless to say my life has never been the same.

With a voice of experience I can now look back and say it was fairly painless. I was very surprised to find how quickly new people are accepted (like the moment you hit the door — the more the merrier I guess).

And even the routine, however odd, could be gotten used to (sort of), like playing floor hockey with a rolled up newspaper at 4 a.m., carry a six foot birch tree (that almost gave Gary a hernia) through the SUB (I won't say what for), lugging Forrest from a party with his empty bottle of Golden Nut, having snow and ice fights in the office, screwing up Edison's phone and tying up his chairs and his typewriter, even tolerating peaceful terms with CHSR (air pollution) long enough to build the best float in the Carni parade...

And of course, there is a serious side (?), after all we do put out your newspaper each week. But even that I found to be times of "Hustle". And then there is truth in the old saying "Work can be fun" (if you've lost your sanity which is characteristic of our staffers).

But I'm supposed to be telling you about how we run our ship (as if we really could put that in print). And when I'm through if you don't come a-running then at least you'll know how your money is spent.

The Brunswickan is 108 years old



Layout staff on a typical Wednesday "putting the paper to bed." Left is Brian Dingle and right, Jeff Davies

this year and is the oldest official student publication in Canada besides being one of the largest weekly newspapers in New Brunswick (we throw that in because it sounds impressive).

The newspaper is financed by the Student Representative Council with an annual budget of approximately \$24,000 not to mention \$13,000 of new equipment purchased for this year. Now you know where alot of your money goes (we get more than any other organization on campus, along with CHSR), so make sure you get your money's worth...

We usually put out about 24 issues per year (approximately 24-28 page wonder) with a Christmas break and the last edition in March, so we can pretend to study.

So much for the facts and figures.

Well, like any other organization we have our great bureaucracy; I guess we do need one to guide the place, after all no experience is necessary whatsoever to join the ranks. It's just too bad the bureaucracy doesn't know what they're doing either.

The leader of the pack, or at least the one who takes the shit when somebody doesn't like what we say, is the editor-in-chief. He

settles the arguments or has the final say on major decisions. He (I say he because right now it is a he) also writes editorials and generally makes a nuisance of himself.

Next in line is the Managing Editor, the ME. (That's me.) I'm responsible for the actual production of the newspaper, making sure everything that's supposed to be done gets done. All department editors are responsible to me with their problems as well as layout people (sounds dirty, eh?). If we don't get out on time that's MY problem. I also write editorials and have tete a tetes with the Chief.

Then come the section editors. News takes up the largest portion of the paper, and therefore makes up the largest part of the staff (we Bruns people are logical).

The news editor (take a bow, Gary), makes up a news list which is an outline of the stories he wants done that week. This is posted on a bulletin board and the reporters come in and write their names (if they can) beside the stories they wish to cover.

These articles are then edited by the news editor who also decides what type style and width he wants each typeset in.

Typesetting is done by our full

time secretary (we're the only student newspaper in the Atlantic region to have one; now I know you'll think we're ritzy), on a great beast called a Compu-Writer. This machine works on the same principle as a camera taking pictures of each letter she types. The strip of Kodak paper is then run through a portable dark room and voila, instant story in black and white all "justified" or even on both margins. Simple, eh?

These strips are measured (with a ruler, you'll learn to use one of those too), by the news editor and the arranging of the stories begins (that starts on Wednesday night which is production night each week). Once he knows how much copy (articles) he has he decides which stories go on what page and where. This is done on "dummy sheets" (I wonder why they call them that) which represent each page of the paper ruled off in columns (across) and inches (down).

The news editor rules off where everything is to appear and these markings are then transferred from the dummy sheets to the layout sheets by the ME.

The layout staff waxes the backs of the strips of stories, cuts them out with a knife (it's a wonder we

allow them) the right occasions) marks I've layout sheets

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Photo by Louis

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