

# spades down

by Tom Murphy

Sitting in front of the fireplace, the suggestive flames seducing the thoughts of my mind. Seldom great thoughts, mostly kind thoughts, reflective, much like the heat that ricochets off the brick backing. Everywhere the voices of people hum-drum through my brain, everyone wanting to help, no one helping, no one inside the room that I'm in.

The train clenches its turning teeth to the track as I clench my body tighter to the supporting beam. It is a powerless feeling to be caught half way across the railway bridge when a mighty diesel rumbles through. Should you slip, you have only the polluted water (or snow this time of year) to save you. Something to tell my kids however. Their daring daddy who braved the vicious elements almost daily, staking life and limb on the timber ties of the railbridge - a two mile walk just to get a university education. Holy catfish!

But something tells me that they won't be impressed. Looking behind is to idolize experience, looking ahead is to learn from it.

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Just before Christmas, I went to a fortune teller who chose cards as his medium. His claim was that he could look ahead for me. Now am I lucky or am I lucky? Well, my cards were a rare bunch according to him. I am just about the luckiest thing on two legs. Why I am destined to live a life without financial worries, with true love and happiness, with lifelong security, the whole bag. In short term predictions, he was right on stating that I would not know where I was going to eat my Christmas dinner till almost the last minute. I didn't fall down the stairs, however, and until last Thursday, I was in good health.

He was an interesting old man, seventy-seven years of age, a real Bible-thumper. The Good Book was at the core of his sphere of influence. In the early fifties, he was a victim of tuberculosis. He was told he would be short-lived. "A lot of them used to laugh at me when I would take out my Bible everyday. But, by golly, I'm still here. You can't beat that can you?" No doubt his faith was a major psychological factor in his healing.

When I questioned him on the apparent contradiction of his ability to transcend the present into the boundaries of the omnipotent God he worshiped, he quietly passed over it. The youth of today have no morals. I liked him.

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Back to my fireplace, the logs were pretty well burned down to red coals. The railway bridge and a lungful of fresh air tempered by the damp soil of the new green. Spring to come up. Summer and sunshine, beached and cold water splashing at young girls, sand everywhere, trees and budworms. But I had no cards. I could see no luck, no flames, no future. I could see only the red coals that were dying into the night.

## Students show little interest in Jan 29 council elections

If any students care about the SRC spending their money they don't indicate it.

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If any students care, they don't indicate it.

Of fifteen positions vacant for the January 29 election only three are being contested. Students don't even care enough to disband the SRC and save their money.

But there are people running for nearly all positions in the executive of the senior and graduating classes.

Chief returning officer Padraig Finlay is concerned about the lack of interest in the SRC.

He attributed it to indifference on the part of the students and the present SRC reps. He found this surprising because the SRC has made great advances in the past few months, according to him.

He felt there were no post grad reps because grad student society wanted autonomy from the SRC.

"Since this motion was decisively defeated by council, it is obvious that the GSA has nothing to gain by having a member on council.

"Of course this might be a more democratic council because the initiative came from the students rather than people being pressured to run."

The seats being contested are the presidency, the comptrollership, and the nursing constituency.

Allan Pressman, arts 4, and Joe Yule, sociology 4, are running for president. Pressman is no stranger to SRC politics.

He was vicepresident two years ago and ran for comptroller this year.

Yule is a director of the

drama society and a Red 'n' Black veteran.

Robin Bunner, Brian Sullivan and Emerson Wilby are in the race for comptroller. Bunner is presently finance chairman of the SRC. Sullivan is in his second year with the Winter Carnival committee.

Wilby is an arts rep on the SRC.

In nursing Joan Buckland, Jean Calder and Pat Waller are the contestants.

The following were elected by acclamation.

In arts: Bob Hess, presently sitting on council, Peter

MacDonald and Christine MacKimmie.

In business administration: James Muir.

In education: Judith Mullin. In engineering: Mark Steeves. One seat remains vacant through lack of nominations.

In forestry: Charles Attwater.

In science: Ronald Bell.

The post grads were zero for zero in an amazing display of interest in who spends their money.

Alistair Robertson retains his position as vicepresident, until next fall.

## Brunswickan

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