



By CHRISTIE WALKER

"The freedom of the press is one of the great bulwarks of liberty, and can never be restrained but by despotic governments" George Mason.

I spent a great deal of time in the library on Wednesday evening looking for a quote that could adequately sum up my feelings about the events which have taken place in and around this office over the past couple of weeks. There are quite a few quotations dealing with the question of liberty and freedom, but somehow this one seems to say it all.

It all started a couple of weeks ago with the SRC's demand for an information page. I initially rejected the idea, not because it wasn't a good one, but because the SRC, headed by John Bosnitch, passed a motion concerning this page without once consulting any member of the *Brunswickan*. Furthermore, Bosnitch announced that the publisher (which is the SRC) would hear no appeal on this matter and that the contents of the page would be "exclusively at the SRC's and ultimately, his discretion" (Nov. 12 *Brunswickan*). I sincerely hope that it's not necessary for me to go any further other than to say that nothing at this paper has been or ever will be printed at the discretion of the publisher. If the publisher had the ultimate right to decide what went in the paper, what would be the point of having an editor-in-chief. I refuse to be reduced to a figurehead.

As with all major decisions, the problem of how to handle the SRC Information page was brought to an Editorial Board meeting, where we decided to co-operate. (That's the word they use a lot in Sesame Street and I would have thought all the SRC executives and councillors would have had a firm grasp of its meaning by now.) Unfortunately, it seemed to be us doing all of the co-operating and not receiving any appreciation for our efforts. When the Information page finally made its debut in last week's issue, after a lot of unnecessary hassling from the boys upstairs, it was met with mixed reviews. I spent three very precious hours making little boxes around ads and announcements (an average page takes fifteen minutes to lay out) and Bosnitch, instead of coming to us and thanking us for a first attempt, regardless of how poor he may have felt it to be, complained that it was the worst information page he had ever seen. Well, I'm afraid there's not much I can say to that, is there? But worst of all was the inference that I had deliberately sabotaged the lay out of the page to spite him. Please God, let me be a better person than that and more mature than Bosnitch would have others believe.

As for the bold, black stripes. We don't want them in the *Brunswickan*. To us, the affiliators are Student Party (and Bosnitch was so convincing when he said the two weren't connected). Tell me, is that why SP and Unity and bold, black stripes are on the same ad in the Student Directory? I guess it was just a mistake.

What it all boils down to I guess, in a word, is manipulation. I was idealistic and naive once, I guess, and I believed in Bosnitch for the students. Now I believe in Bosnitch for Bosnitch and am only wondering when the castle walls will all start to fall. I also wonder how many people will be there to pick up the pieces.

Our Sports Editor, Dave "Jock Baby" Mombourquette is in the hospital and everyone here at the *Brunns* misses him desperately and wish him a speedy recovery. Get well soon, Jack, and come back to us soon.

Our last movie for the year will be shown this Sunday in Tilley 102. The movie is "Dead Men Don't Wear Plaid" and I hope everyone will attend. Admission is \$2.

Next week will be the *Brunswickan's* last issue before Christmas and since Mike will be writing Mugwump then, I would just like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has been so helpful to me over this term and also to wish everyone the best of luck on exams and the happiest of holidays.

soundoff

NOVEMBER 26, 1982

Not impressed with vandalism

Dear Sir,

I can only go by what I have heard from other students, and by the report in last week's issue of the *Brunswickan*. I am referring to the conduct of certain people from Neill House during a social with McLeod. I do not understand how or why anyone would want to intentionally destroy a building in such a systematic, floor by floor, rampage. There is absolutely no excuse for this type of conduct.

After reading the article, my first impression was to have the guilty persons expelled from UNB. Such rowdy and disorderly conduct should not be tolerated.

I would like to remind everyone, that all students have been warned about their conduct while attending UNB. I am referring specifically to P. 13 of the September 17th issue of the *Brunswickan*. There is a "Notice to Students" concerning theft, disorderly and rowdy conduct, and vandalism. This notice says:

"The Board of Deans also wishes to issue a clear warning

that it will not tolerate disorderly or rowdy conduct, or bullying behavior on campus.

Evidence of such behavior may lead to disciplinary action, even to a recommendation for expulsion from the University. The rights of others must be respected."

There is another paragraph concerning vandalism which says: "Damage to University property, and to the property of other people, will also be treated as a serious offence, and if evidence is sufficient, charges may be laid."

A copy of the Student Disciplinary code was also printed in the October 1st issue of the *Brunswickan*.

Although many people believe that expulsion from UNB may be too harsh a punishment, stop and think for a minute. Nine people intentionally cause damage to a building, roughly \$1,000.00 worth of damage. Perhaps this estimate may be \$1,500.00. Take \$1,500, divide by nine, and each person pays approximately \$167.00. Over a five month period, Dec. to April,

this breaks down to a mere \$33.00 a month. Not too much. Some students pay out that much in one weekend for booze at any of the bars in town.

Unfortunately, I have no sympathy for the guilty persons. I have been involved in construction and I am aware of the high costs of building materials. Not to mention the salaries for the men who repair the damages. It has also created an inconvenience for the women of McLeod, crowding of washroom facilities, for who knows how long?

I would also like to point out that there has been an increasing amount of vandalism at Head Hall as well. This type of conduct must be stopped, or it might get worse. Doesn't anyone care about anything anymore? How about a little respect for the University? If we, the students, don't give a damn about the University, then who will? I am not impressed!

David

Betrayed and berated

Dear Editor,

Lord Carrington, British Foreign Secretary, once described the apparent attitude of Soviet foreign policy in the following manner: "What is ours is ours; what is yours is negotiable." He might just as well have been an observant student at UNB expressing concern over the apparent attitude of new SRC President John Bosnitch, whose attitude seems alarmingly similar: "What is mine is mine, and what is yours will soon be mine." At least that is the impression one receives on observing his dealings with the *Brunswickan* this week. One does not need to be an accomplished student politician or indeed to be in the thick of SRC affairs to be able to detect that something is not quite right with the manner in which he conducts his business. Any casual but careful observer can easily discover that his attitude leaves a lot to be desired.

In the few weeks that he has been president, Bosnitch has already acted in a sufficiently inappropriate manner as to confer a feeling of betrayal on many of those students who voted for him in the SRC elec-

tions. It's not so much what Bosnitch does, but rather the way in which he does it. His recent dealings with the *Brunswickan* are a case in point. Observing his persistent and petty attempts to get exactly what he wanted from the *Brunswickan* staff concerning the new SRC information page, I was filled with a sense of despair that a man so uncooperative was our president. He was inflexible, demanding, and condescending, and whilst the demands in themselves seemed worthy of consideration, the manner in which they were delivered was impolite and belittling.

I sincerely hope that the presidency isn't going to spoil Bosnitch and tempt him to demand from and manipulate those under him. I don't see any good reason for complaining so vehemently about a submission that was late anyway, especially when the *Brunswickan* staff included and arranged the material to the best of their ability. Bosnitch should consider himself privileged to be the president of the governing student body of such a fine institution as UNB. Similarly, he is extremely fortunate to be able to claim

association with the *Brunswickan*, since your newspaper is clearly committed to quality journalism. Perhaps Bosnitch should be a little more humble, and concentrate on building a record of concrete achievements for the students which he promised so readily not so long ago.

May I remind Bosnitch that the *Brunswickan* is a good newspaper, put together by a small group of staff members with limited time and under considerable pressure. The quality of the results of all the hard work fluctuates like any other paper, but the efforts are at all times accommodating and commendable. This invites appreciation for their efforts, rather than indifference and awkwardness. I hope that you will never be discouraged or deterred from pointing this out to President Bosnitch and ungrateful others; not by confrontation, negotiation, or force, but the best possible means - by example.

Edward W. Thompson
M.P.E. 2

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