

SPREAD THAT CHRISTMAS CHEER



You can notice it in the Brunswickan office this week; you can sense it in the department stores in the malls; you can even identify it in the men's and women's residences on campus and you can detect it from the conversations with your friends. What does everybody notice this time of the year? It's the CHRISTMAS ENTHUSIASM, when students, professors, businessmen, cashiers and even the guy that pumps gas in your car makes an effort to smile.

Enthusiastic students gave their comments on what Christmas means to them and their plans for the Christmas holidays:

Christmas is to me what it is to most people: a great holiday with family, friends, snow and good times. It is the one time during the year when memories of past holidays become crystal-clear; even the smallest incidents of previous years become important. How well I remember that the cat climbed the tree [3 times], and the other time that we had meatloaf for dinner because someone burned the turkey.

But what I remember most about the Christmases of my youth is the fact that Santa never brought me a Frosty Sno-Cone machine. This wonderful item appeared at least on four successive Christmas lists, but to no avail. The kids on TV and in the catalogues lived in some magical world where the delicious Frosty Sno-Cones figured prominently in all their games. All I could dream of was that fantastic plastic snowman who crushed up in cubes in his belly and ejected in the syrupy conical Dixie cups. What fun, I thought to have some friends visit and be able to treat them to those delicious cones.

Do they still sell such great toys anymore? Or have they gone the way of the Easy-Bake oven which I see has now evolved into an Easy-Bake Microwave oven. Oh well, at least the Sno-Cone machine can never go digital. [John Hamilton]

When I think of Christmas I picture myself in a nice warm bed waiting for morning to come, with my covers over my head so that the slime monster [under my bed] won't get me. I'm so excited I can hardly keep from pissing myself, but I know I can't do that or Santa will come and reclaim all my neat toys. Besides that, it would be very inconvenient trying to open all my presents with wet pajama bottoms. When I finally get up and run in and see all my presents I'm naturally pretty disappointed. Its then I realize what greedy little snots we all are. The parents wrack their brains and spend their money and the kids are never satisfied.



Then I'd spend the rest of the day playing with some stupid little car and thinking how neat it would be when I could drive. Not realizing that the stupid little car in my hand could go faster, make neater sounds and participate in more adventures in one Christmas day than a real car does in a lifetime. When I think back it would have ben better if I had let the covers slip of my face and let myself be eaten by the slime creature under the bed. At least the slime creature would have been satisfied. [Mark Estill]

Christmas is a religious holiday. However for me, it is mostly a holiday. Christmas is the time of year when friends, family and hopefully loved ones are near-by to relax with. Good food, good friends and good cheer are my plans for this Christmas.

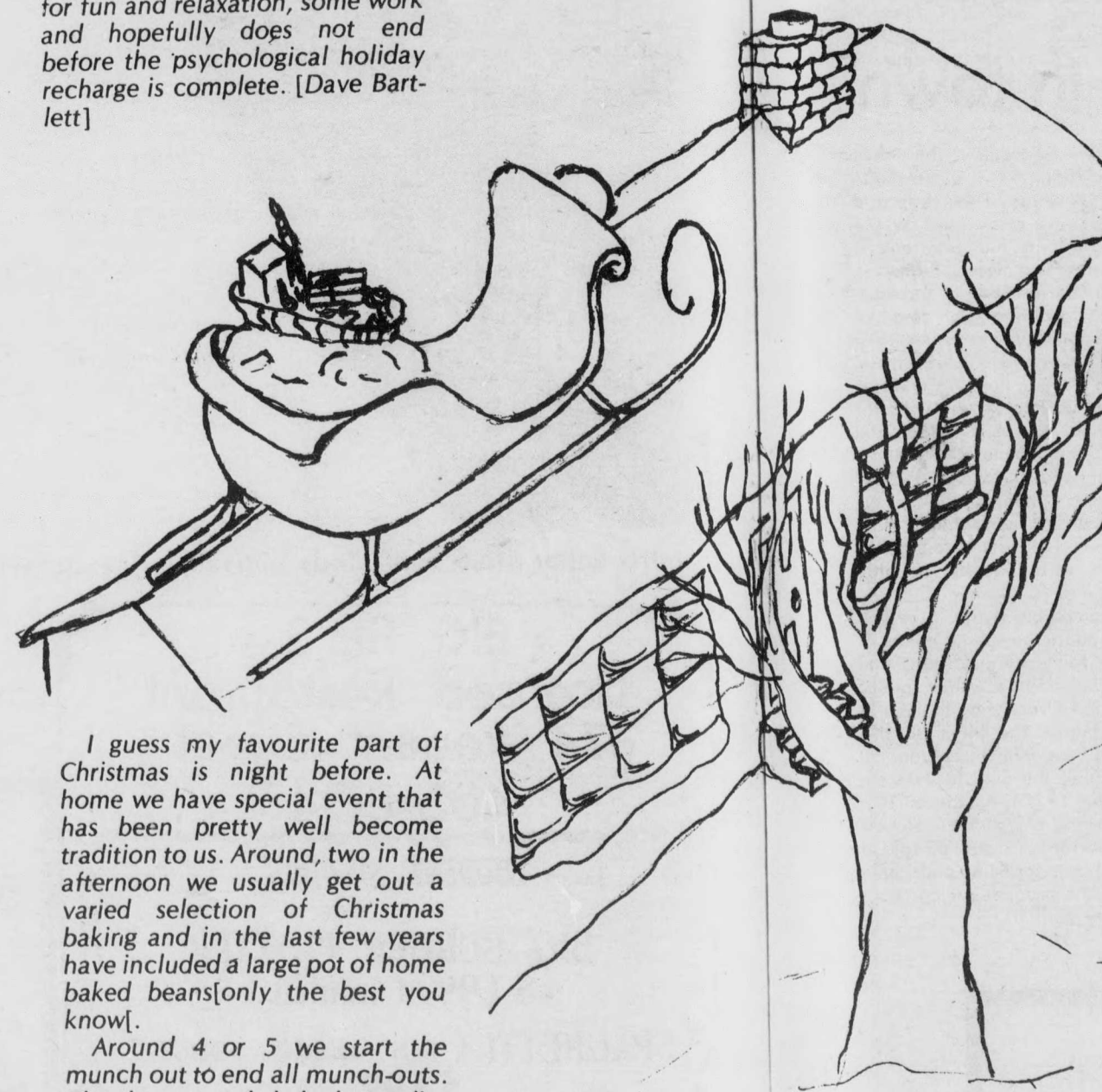
Christmas will be almost the end of my term and so it also means time for reflection. Unfortunately, the holidays also represent a time when I must do some school work.

Christmas is that time of year for fun and relaxation, some work and hopefully does not end before the psychological holiday recharge is complete. [Dave Bartlett]

I guess my favourite part of Christmas is night before. At home we have special event that has been pretty well become tradition to us. Around, two in the afternoon we usually get out a varied selection of Christmas baking and in the last few years have included a large pot of home baked beans[only the best you know].

Around 4 or 5 we start the munch out to end all munch-outs. The beans and baked goodies don't last too long land usually the youngest of the family[Robbie] retires to bed an hour or two in the afternoon in eager anticipation of what the morning will bring.

The rest of us sit around to finish off the punch which Dad spent the day making. I wonder how I could spike the punch this year!! [Mike MacKinnon]



Christmas is really my favorite time of the year. All the houses and trees are so pretty, covered lightly with sparkling white snow; birds chirp happily in their cosy nests high above my head: people smile as they walk down the street. I love it. And besides, when else during the year can you buy big, expensive bottles of booze and then...invite yourself over and drink yourself silly! Each year at this time I like to call my friends on the phone and wish them the best. If only someone would lend me a dime I'd go right now and phone all of them.

Merry Christmas and Happy Winter Solstice to all. [Doug Varty]

Christmas is a wonderful time of year. This time of year you walk through the brightly lit malls and stores with your hard earned money or student loan grasped firmly in hand, and mingle with all the other Christmas shoppers looking for Christmas presents. What other time of the year are you able to get so close to the rest of humanity?

The part I like best is going to the Liquor commission to buy the booze for the Christmas parties. At these parties vast quantities of alcohol are consumed as the students drink to forget that the money they spent was being saved for next terms tuition.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. [Chris Earl]

P.S. I hope Doug Varty buys me a big expensive bottle of booze then I can drink it all before he invites himself over.
P.P.S. I hope he doesn't read the P.S.

Christmas Eve is usually the time that holds a special meaning for me. Not only is it the day before Christmas but it is also my father's birthday. Anticipation is always high that evening as my family gathers together to share an evening meal of tortiere and wine a family tradition. After the meal there is an evening mass which my father conducts at his church. Christmas day is a day of gift giving—and if dear ol' Dad's off to work again, we are up at the crack of dawn! But what is so enjoyable over the holidays is everyone getting together after couple of months separation. Are you reading this Tom? Its a happy time and I wish everyone the same happiness over the holiday season. [Kathryn Wakeling]

One aspect of Christmas I find highly enjoyable is travelling around the city, visiting old friends, exchanging gifts with loved ones and admiring all the decorations in and around Fredericton.

It is particularly beautiful here in the winter and I find myself very relaxed as I walk through the woods, admiring the scenery and reflecting over the past year.

This year I may go to Ontario to visit some old friends and relatives over the holidays, perhaps both to see them and to get away from the monotony and pressure of the daily routines. It will certainly be a welcome break from all the studies.

I hope all will get a chance to get together with those you cherish and enjoy the holidays. CHERRY MISSMAS! [Ross Libby]

Christmas is a time of rest and relaxation from the weekly routine. Its a time of fellowship, a time of sharing with family and good friends. Its simply a chance to be home, to meet old friends, to share new experiences! It is a most enjoyable time of the year. [Gordon Loane]

Christmas shows to me just how selfish we really are. All year round we take care of business and don't bother giving to those who are in need all the time. Then at the end of the year we go out and spend our "honest" dollars on gifts for all our friends and relatives who "really" need it. Now-a-days people find that the joy in giving is the fact that you will be getting as much in return. It all comes out to spending your money on yourself. We often, find ourselves not buying that pair of jeans just yet, but rather waiting until after Christmas, because we figure if we hint enough we'll get them as a present.

What I'm driving at is that Christmas should be more than a family affair. There are millions of people who don't know that Christmas has gone by because they've never seen it. This year when you open all your presents, why not think about the kids in south East Asia and what they have not! [Andre Dicaire]

The coming of Christmas for me is going home to be with my family and friends, eating Mom's cooking, decorating the Christmas tree, hearing the Christmas Carols and watching Charlie Brown's Christmas on television.

I want to send special thanks to all those people who sent in their comments. I hope everyone has an enjoyable holiday. Merry Christmas! [and a special Merry Christmas to Peter]

Kim Matthews, Features Editor

