

Council's inconsistencies are detrimental to students

The student government at UNB obviously does not know what it wants, or—even more important—what is best for the students of this university.

Council was presented, at Monday's SRC meeting, with the resignation of president Warren McKenzie, to be effective Nov. 29.

The group, however, seemed quite reluctant to accept McKenzie's resignation and even passed a motion expressing confidence in the president.

McKenzie has firmly stated he

will not reconsider his resignation.

The interesting point is that only three weeks ago council passed a resolution calling for McKenzie's resignation. That motion was sponsored by other executive council members and was withdrawn after the matter was discussed fully.

The events in recent weeks are also affecting all interaction between students and the administration. If the situation in student government continues students will lose all credibility off-campus.

McKenzie's resignation will definitely not help the situation.

Students can, and should, have a high degree of participation in any policy decisions that affect them. The job of the new president will be to re-establish the students of this university in a position that their views will not be ignored.

It's time for students to stop the petty squabbling and in-fighting which has marred student politics so far this year to the detriment of the entire student population.

McKenzie admits the SRC has accomplished little so far this year. The government is unlikely to change its record if the present situation continues.

More and more student leaders are becoming frustrated and disgusted with student politics, making it more and more difficult to find proper representatives.

This situation must improve before the SRC succeeds in alienating all the students here and destroying its previous excellent reputation.

Drinkers have rights, too

The news that McConnell Hall may be unavailable for pubs in the future hits students where they feel it the hardest — directly at their raised right elbow.

On a campus known for its affinity to alcohol the loss of the largest capacity hall for pubs comes as quite a loss.

Residence students have complained about the use of the dining hall for pubs because of the smells that linger until breakfast the next morning and the damage done to nearby residences during and after pubs.

Far be it for THE BRUNSWICKAN to side with the patrons of those alcohol-dominated events, but we feel the drinking faction of this campus deserves a say in the matter.

The righteous residence students have complained about the pubs in the dining hall, but no mention has been made of similar events held in the basements of the residences.

We don't mean to suggest that any alcoholic beverages are consumed at those events. If there was it wouldn't really be fair to close McConnell Hall to the rest of the students, now would it?

After all, the residence system is subsidized to a high degree, meaning that those who live in

residence receive a higher proportion of the university's subsidy than those who live off campus.

Maybe the residences are trying to eliminate some of the competition for their own pubs by not allowing any such events at McConnell.

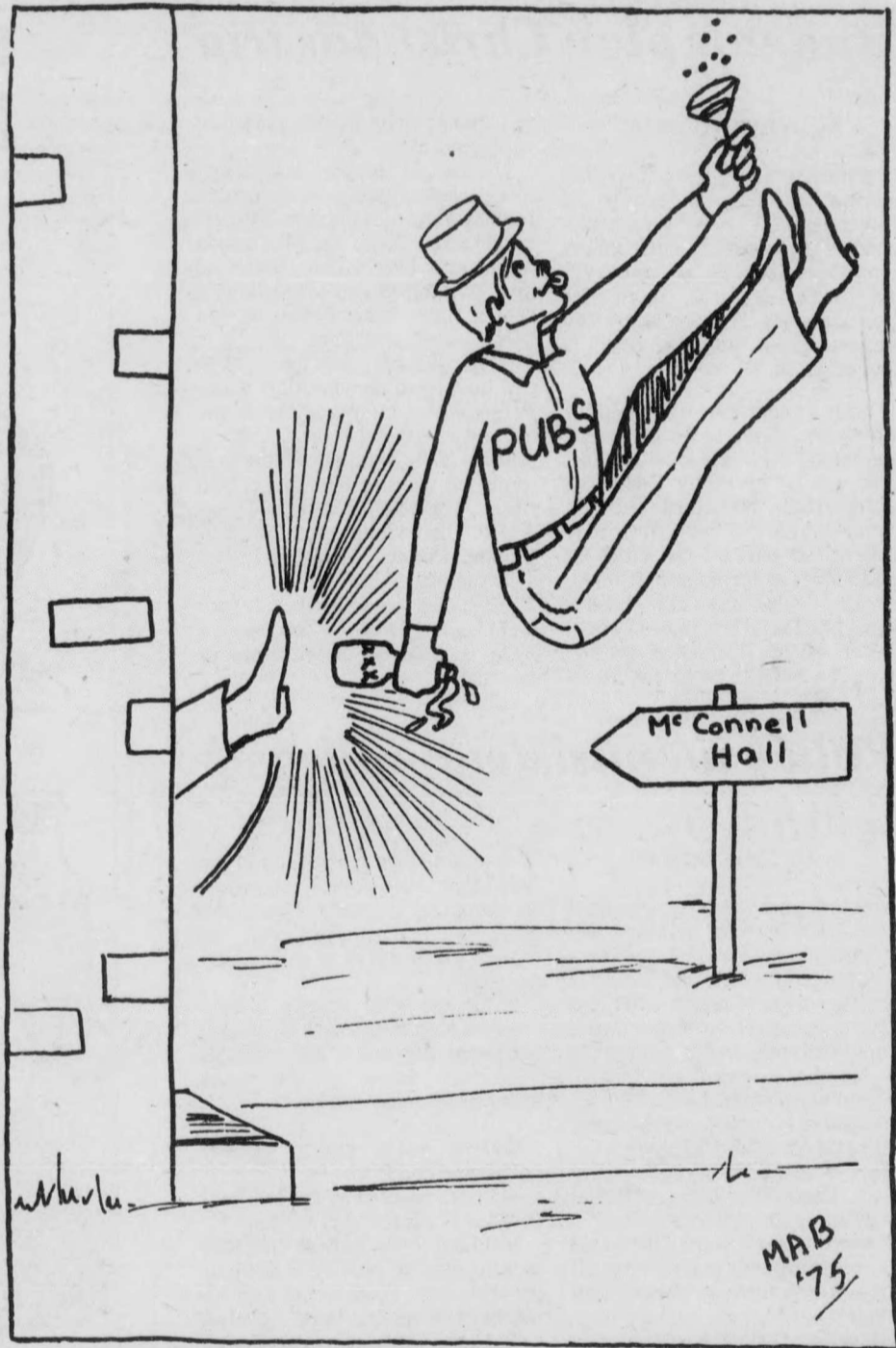
It must be some of those business students putting some of the things they learned in class to a practical use.

We don't really believe the statement that the smell of the dining hall the next morning is a valid excuse for eliminating pubs there. Surely an adequate janitorial service could remove the problem.

McConnell Hall is the largest capacity hall for pubs on campus — for now at least. If the hall cannot be used for pubs it will mean an end to some of the better entertainment brought to campus.

If the new Aitken University Centre is completed in the form planned the building could be used to house larger events which are presently held in McConnell Hall.

We are sure some compromise can—and should—be reached so that McConnell Hall can be used for pubs at least until an alternative is found.



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