# Editorial takes simplistic approach

Dear Editor:

I have just read your very simplistic editorial, which blames public schools for the poor results on the University English competency test. Obviously you lack understanding of today's curriculum in the public schools of New Brunswick.

First of all, the test. What did it measure? Who set it?

Was it a valid and reliable test? Who marked it? What relationship did it bear to current N.B. curriculum?

Once these questions are answered, perhaps we should acknowledge that the N.B. Achievement Testing Program over the years has revealed some very positive evidence about the quality of student writing. Of course we all know that concern for stanwas prevalent during the 50's and 60's when only the fittest made their way to the "halls of higher learning." One thing is certain in to-

dards of English and writing

day's class-rooms -- children at all levels are spending more time on Language development, doing more writing, and are taught by the best-trained clientele in our history. Teachers and parents certainly are interested in the best efforts and results. In my opinion, students, particularly our brightest, are better prepared for university than at any time in the past.

Before condemning the public schools (although they are not blameless), perhaps the University should look at its own (1) Is the university accepting many students who really are not suited to a university setting?

(2) Is the university diagnosing the needs of the freshmen students in English and teaching the deficit skills?

(3) Is the university curriculum compatible with the public school or is it largely dictated by the interests or whims of a particular professor?

Who monitors and evaluates the quality of programs and teaching at the university level?

(5) And what about the quality of spoken English by some of the professors who

instructing freshmen?

The answer to our dilemna (sic) is not simple, but I believe it will only be found by cooperatively seeking ways to build on what we have achieved to date.

Incidentally, I hope the level of writing and thinking reflected in some of your newspaper articles is not representative of the university body at large, because it would never appear in print in any of the New Brunswick High Schools.

Sincerely

William Sweezey Superintendent.

### Ski hills deserve a chance

Dear Editor:

I am writing this letter in protest of Miss D. Geneau's article that appeared in last week's Brunswickan. Miss Geneau stated that "There are no decent ski hills in, around near Fredericton.

Just a mere five minutes from town, not even out of town limits, lies Silverwood Winter Park. Silverwood is an ideal hill for the beginning skier, and it's close approximity to town makes it suitable for going out and cranking a few turns after classes. Although many of you probably snicker at my mentioning of Silverwood as a ski hill, I feel that it is hard to beat just five minutes from home.

Further up the road, about 30 miles, lies Crabbe Mt. Despite its poor snow conditions bureaucratic mismanagement reminiscent of years gone by, it is not a bad hill. I have been skiing there for 12 years of my life, and still find some of the runs amusing. It ranks right up there with other hills I have skied on in Ontario and Quebec. Also, I would say that it would be the top hill in the Province, having the highest verticle drop. Crabbe is not exactly Aspen, but for New Brunswick it is not bad.

Just a short 5 hour drive stateside gets us to Sugarloaf Maine. With a verticle drop of 2.637 feet, it offers the only above timberline skiing in eastern North America. Sugarloaf is also higher than many large resorts out west. For instance, it is higher than Park City Utah, Brenckenridge, Keystone, Crested Butte and Taos, which are all considered some of the top ski hills in the world. For some, Sugarloaf is to far away, but if you are an "ardent downhill skier", it is worth the sacrafice.

I realize that the local hills are not up to par with all of the other hills in North America, but I do strongly feel that they deserve a decent or higher rating than the one that was given.

Sincerely, an ardent downhill skiier in Frederic-

**Adam Francis** 

## A fond remembrance

Dear Editor:

Professor Ted Daigle passed away on November 28, 1983. Any student who was fortunate enough to have been in one of his classes truly experienced "the joy of learning". Ted believed in the unique value of the individual and he encouraged each student to

#### Committee needs member

Dear Sir:

The student member of the University Committee on the Status of Women at UNB has not yet been named. This representative should be a women interested in status of women questions, who is currently enrolled as a student at UNB. Interested students should apply or make nominations in writing, stating the candidate's special interests and qualifications. Please send letters, including the telephone number of the candidate, to me at the Department of History.

> Sincerely, (Prof.) Gillian Thompson

actualize his or her potential. He believed that it is not what happens to us which is important, but rather it is how we react and respond to what happens that matters.

The well-know Stanford University psychologist Albert Bandura, tells us that we learn best from example or, as he expresses it, from modelling. What a great model Ted was! His classroom was full of laughter; it was full of music; it was full of spontaneity. Ted was delightfully unpredictable, he was fun, but most of all he was a caring individual. This caring attitude was exemplified in his many deeds of kindness to others.

Perhaps this could best be illustrated by quoting Verse 35, Chapter 25 of the Gospel according to St. Matthew: For I was an hungered and ye gave me meet: I was thirsty and ye gave me drink: I was a stranger and ye took me in.

Ted's death at 51 may have seem untimely; yet the quality of his life was superb. Henry Thoreau wrote, "Oh God, to have reached the point of death without ever having lived at all." Ted embraced death just as he embraced life for to him death was just another phase of life. He lived a rich, full life and those whose path crossed his, even if only briefly, were better for having met

We thank God for Ted Daigle's life.

A former student

## Not guilty!

Dear Editor:

In response to allegations made in the Brunswickan of November 25, 1983 by some members of Neville House in regards to the death of Mikie.

Firstly, we would like to state that the only reason that we are responding to these comments is to clear our name, as a response for any other reason would only

be lowering ourselves to the level of our accusers.

To imply that we are responsible for the death of an innocent animal without having sufficient fact or information to back up the statement in question, was irresponsible and an insult. We would consider it only fair that a retraction and an apology be printed by those responsible.

Name Witheld

### Vanier gives thanks

Dear Editor:

We, the ladies of Vanier, third floor, would like to express our sincere gratitude to the residences of UNB and STU for their very generous contributions to our penny drive. These greatly appreciated donation will aid us in the planning of a Christmas party for the children involved in the Head Start program in Thanks for Fredericton. helping to make their, and our Christmas brighter.

Sincerely Ladies of Vanier 3rd Floor