

BLOOD AND THUNDER

deserve.

** I realize that writing from an anonymous point of view will bring me under fire, but I also think that writing from an anonymous point of view, will force people to ask themselves, "Do I know this person and not know he is gay?"

Name withheld on request

Get it Right!

Dear Sir,

I am writing the Brunswickan in response to the cover page of last weeks issue which is supposedly depicting the separation of Quebec from Canada. What I would like to know is, who is the incompetent simpleton that has drawn this picture? The last time I went home, Labrador (God's country) and Quebec had not amalgamated so why would there be a picture on the cover of UNB's newspaper showing Labrador as a part of Quebec. For your information, there is a section of Canada called the province of Newfoundland AND Labrador. If I do recall correctly, if it were not for this province the ridiculous Meech Lake accord with all of its discriminatory policies, would have passed. I think that Clyde Wells (the premier of Newfoundland) is an excellent politician who had some very valid objections to the accord and I support him one hundred percent. So, why would Labrador (an integral part of Newfoundland) want to separate with Quebec if we were the main reason why Quebec lost its precious accord. I thought that some Americans were bad enough in thinking that Canadians are just a bunch of hockey players. At least they are mistaken about another country. The scatterbrains who put the front cover on last weeks Bruns do not even know the geography of their own country. It is complete ignorance. I think that the person or persons responsible for this appalling act should apologize to the other Labradorians who go to school here (who share the same sentiments) and reprint this picture with the appropriate corrections AND take a course in geography.

A Proud Labradorian,
Tony Record

PS I apologize to any American students for the stereotype but I was very

pissed off when I wrote this letter.

More meaty stuff

To the Editorial staff of the Bruns,

I would like to add my support for Steve Griffith's request that you cease to use the meat logo. I had come to associate the logo and Stevie's other assorted artwork with the kind of bizarre humour that only he could provide. In reading the Entertainment columns since he "retired", I must admit I have been sadly disappointed and I questioned the appropriateness of using the logo and calling that vegetable matter "Meat." The "Saddam Dead Meat" thing had to be the most tasteless attempt to date. Steve produced some wonderfully witty material and, with the exception of some of Chris Hunt's articles, the new entertainment section falls short of the Meat tradition. Let's keep our memory of Stevie and Meat a fond memory and let the new editor start his own traditions.

Signed, Kathy Eakins
Past-President Uncle Stevie fan club.

To Bush with love

Mr. President,

I hear that you have called for a national day of prayer for peace. Your hypocrisy is as transparent as the lenses in my gas mask. You started the war. If you want peace, stop the war now! You say it is our duty to fight this war because our cause is just. You contend that even though the fighting had stopped for a time. Iraq started the war by invading Kuwait. By the same logic, it would be equally "just" for any foreign nation to invade America to liberate the Indians that once ruled the land we now call ours; but this should not be necessary. A man of good conscience like yourself, should realize this sin and immediately endeavor to rectify it by giving the land back to Indians.

Furthermore, by what standard is our cause just? Jesus, your purported

savior, and a Jew, never encouraged his countrymen to take up arms against their conquerors, the Romans, though their government was abusive, and their religion heathen. No where in the New Testament are we exhorted to drop bombs on other men women, and children in God's name or for any other reason. At the hands of the Romans, Jesus paid for his PACIFISM with his life. Is it not interesting that Jesus paid for his PACIFISM with his life. Is it not interesting that Jesus established a 'new world order' and that the descendant nations of the Roman empire are now mostly CHRISTIAN?

Are you so conceited as to send well-meaning Americans to their slaughter, at you behest, in defense of your personal idea of justice? Again, let us give America back to the Indians, or let us invade the USSR to liberate Lithuania, Latvia, and Estonia, or Israel to liberate the West Bank and Gaza. Surely, economic sanctions, if they were instituted at all, have not worked against these invaders in five months of fifteen years.

I have heard you commend those slaughtered Americans who made the "ultimate sacrifice." Clearly, you believe with all your heart and soul that our cause is just, and regrettably, even this type of sacrifice is necessary. Being a military man, you know that the best leaders lead by example. Mr. President: adhere to the infantry motto, "Follow me," or the example of your purported savior, the great leader Jesus Christ. Come to the war. Charge the Iraqi tanks, make the "ultimate sacrifice." Surely, Mr. Quayle, your esteemed Vice-President, can adequately replace you. You, in turn, will go down in history as a sincere believer and a great leader. You may rightly contend that no religious or ethical standard encourages you to take such a step. What a pity the same logic does not apply to the promising young American being slaughtered at your command.

Respectfully and sincerely,
CPT David S. Wiggins,
Physician
US Army Medical Command
Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

War Toys

To Parents:
What are war toys?

War toys are "all playthings which are used to solve conflict, gain power, or win through violence; and which aim to wound or kill" (Swedish Play Council). They teach children to accept a militarized world. They teach children that people who look or think differently should be defeated and that war and killing are acceptable ways of dealing with difficulties. They create the impression that might is right — and in so doing denigrate kindness, conciliation, cooperation, skill and thoughtfulness of others.

The topic of war toys and games is not only a family concern. People involved with children might gather together to discuss what happens when children play war games. Discuss what really happens in a war. People are really killed, hurt, or changed. Even people who "win" wars are

damaged. Games, television shows or movies using guns seldom show the real effect of what the violence does to people. It is not alright [sic] to hurt others or to pretend to hurt others. War toys appeal to children. One of the many reasons they appeal to them is that they don't require skill and practice. Learning to read or play the recorder, for example, are greater challenges — and demand more work on both children and adults involved in their nurturing. Encouragement for children to draw, dance act in plays, or activities that increase skills and lifelong rewards are the challenge. Perhaps consumers may purchase peaceful toys, support non-violent movies and television (could we, perhaps, find that producers will follow the lead of the marketplace and produce more acceptable toys?) Are we aware of the stereotypes in which society often places boys and men as he-men defending a passive family/group? Do we focus our rewards and attention offering praise and recognition for playing peacefully and resolving conflicts in creative ways? Can we begin to see war toys and war itself for what it is — a mindless response and a destructive activity.

Some toys help us play together, skipping ropes, basketballs, card games. Some toys teach us new things; bicycles to ride, books to read (free from our locals library), painting sets to create pictures. When we play together we learn each person can do different things, each person is important and has something to contribute, everyone has rights, not just the strongest or biggest, we learn to share toys, to solve arguments by taking turns, buy asking another person to decide, by cooperating and altering rules to accommodate each other. When we play 'War' we create two sides, 'ours' and 'theirs', we solve arguments by fighting, we use guns and other war equipment as toys, we praise and award the use of violence and physical strength, we start fights and make enemies, we pretend people don't suffer or die in a war, we make war seem like an OK thing to do.

Real war happens when countries cannot solve conflict by peaceful means. Real wars have killed millions of people in our world since before our great-grandparents time. Children are left without parents, homes or schools by war. We need to learn how to solve conflict peacefully. Play is one of the best ways of learning. Getting rid of war toys may help get rid of wars.

Toys are for FUN, not for fighting.

In Peace,
B. Stewart

From Steve to Jason

Dear Sir,

Hats off to Jason Burns and the rest of the Winter Carnival committee for an excellent Winter Carnival! Judging by the success of all Winter Carnival events it looks like the Student Union has managed to put Winter Carnival back on track and heading for even more success in the years to come. I can speak for all of us at Varsity Mania by saying we were very pleased to be part of such a banner Winter carnival.

Steve Williams
Varsity Mania

Varsity Mania cheers

Dear sir,

The Varsity Mania experience is something overlooked by too many people, too often. The feelings generated at these events are raw, pure, and more importantly just the thing our teams need to push them over the top into the winner's circle. Besides the motivational boost there is also the opportunity to go and show your true colours, literally. The best way to have fun at an event is to go splashed in your house colours, the competitive aspect can't be beat. There is no acceptable way to describe it in ink, the only way to understand it is to go to a game, and let the adrenalin take over. Varsity Mania; it's your scene, be a part of it.

Dan Herman
A Fan

AISEC notices?

Dear Sir,

I must appologise to all my faithful readers out there for not having an article in for several weeks (all one or two of you). I submitted one last week but it was so late it was never put into the paper!

The first up and coming AISEC event is a real winner. A Moosehead Brewery Tour in St. John on Tuesday february 19th for all AISECers and friends interested. Sign up in the office (Room 30 of the SUB). Thanks to all who attended the mini motivational seminar this past weekend. The event was very successful with over 30 people having fun at the Rotary Camp at Belleisle. Next, things are in high gear for Atlantic Spring Regional to held here in Fredericton at the Wandlyn Inn on March 15th - 17th. And finally, we are expecting a visit from Byron, a member of our National Committee on February 14th-20th. Everybody is welcome to come and say 'Hello' to him.

As a parting glance I would like to thank all of those who participated in the elections this past Wednesday. And thanks to all those who participate in our annual Valentine Day sing-a-grammes, plus a great thanks to those who sent one.

Dwight Redfeam
VP Communications AISEC..

EDITOR'S note:

The Brunswickan has come to understand that a letter published in last weeks edition of the paper titled "Priorities" and signed Leon Tang was not written by Leon Tang. The real Leon Tang came in to inform us that his name was being used without his knowledge or consent. He denies any connection with the letter that was written and wishes to clear his name of any slurs that the letter may have caused.



The Brunswickan will be putting out a supplement on

Lesbian/Gay/Bisexual Issues.

All interested members of the student, faculty, Fredericton communities, please contact Lynne at 453-4983

Contributions may also be anonymous if you so desire.

Articles, poems, art-work needed. Articles may be as long/short, researched/opinionated, impersonal/personal, funny/serious as you wish.

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Those interested please contact Lynn by Tuesday February 19.