

editorial

40 reasons for being apathetic

Once again, the grim visage of student election looms on the horizon. In the past, it has been Brunswickan editorial policy to support the student council positions that student participation in their elections is desirable. Through years of empirical observation we have come to the conclusion this is fallacious, and so have decided to de-bunk the myth of democracy on university campuses. By presenting the following reasons not to vote we hope to encourage you to show your disgust with the current state of affairs through an absolutely miserable showing at the polls;

1. By not voting, you will not have a hole punched in your card, therefore it will last the rest of the year;
2. The person you vote for might actually get in;
3. They don't give free beer anymore;
4. You won't be forced out of your year long state of lethargy;
5. They don't have cute poll workers;
6. When something goes wrong, you can always say "I didn't vote for the ☆#☆!●";
7. Do you want the responsibility of putting one of those clowns in office;
8. Why give credence to the following that we live in a Democratic society;
9. It's too far to walk to the polling station,
10. You have no control over how your money is spent anyway;
11. Do you want to give one of those clowns a chance to foist an administrative jewel on you;
12. Why make a decision that will affect your campus life;
13. It will probably be raining;
14. No self-respecting literate person would sign with an X
15. Fear of strangers laughing at your I.D. picture;
16. Its far enough to go between classes without having to stop and vote;
17. Fear that someone you know will see you voting;
18. They use such tacky colors for the ballots;
19. You may be forced to use an organ that you have never used before, your brain;
20. Even worse, you may have to make a decision;
21. Your mother never taught you "Eeny-meeny-miiny-moe";
22. You could lose your reputation as an apathetic student;
23. It could be the start of an alarming trend;
24. It means going to classes at some point in the day;
25. The time you spend voting could be better spent drinking;
26. You don't like to vote;
27. You never heard of the people running;
28. All the candidates promise the same thing;
29. They don't have a voting booth in the Social Club;
30. Big Brother is watching you;
31. You live in a totalitarian regime and voting is simply a facade to appease the masses;
32. Nobody in the running is a real person;
33. You may sprain your wrist while marking your ballot;
34. Real men, women and dogs don't vote, they abstain;
35. You're still in shock from Michael Jacksons accident;
36. You're too drunk to see the ballot;
37. You lost your two headed coin;
38. You bloody well don't feel like it;
39. Its fixed anyway, so why bother;
40. Michael Jackson and Quincy Jones aren't on the ballot.



**mugwump
journal**

BY MIKE MACKINNON

I would like to take this opportunity to respond to a letter we received for the February 10 issue concerning our feature on trapping. There is a letter to the editor in this issue (see page 9) explaining the feature was not a "malicious and unfounded attack from a totally misinformed viewpoint." The article was indeed researched and not taken from a colorful pamphlet received in the mail.

Some further information at this point should help clear the issue. Two of the four pictures had previously been published by the Association for the Protection of Fur Bearing Animals. A Canadian trapper, Ed Cesar, took those pictures on his Alberta trapline. They are of an ermine, still alive, in a "quick-kill" 110 Conibear trap and of a lynx held by a leghold trap. It should be pointed out Ed Cesar has been concerned for over a decade now about the reduction of the suffering animals caught in traps. He has been, through the use of remote control, photographing animals caught in different traps on his trapline to see just what can happen to them.

According to some reports his recent film footage is very disturbing to watch because of the extreme suffering it shows.

The third picture shows a cat caught in a trap, something that was a common occurrence until recently. The New Brunswick government has prohibited trapping within 300 metres of a dwelling in response to pressure from concerned citizens.

Finally, something about the Conibear trap. It is capable of catching extremities like paws and legs if set incorrectly and is of no use for catching animals of the long-legged group.

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Last Wednesday I attended a WORD (WORLD Disarmament) meeting and I must say the turnout was somewhat disappointing but then what can you expect? It is difficult for a group with no funding to be a high profile one.

The Student Union Regulation IV (5) states that "An organization may apply to be fundable unless it is of PRIMARILY religious or political nature." By reading the objects section of WORD's constitution and following their activities it can easily be seen the group is educational in nature, not political. Although it is difficult to not be involved politically, as one aspect of disarmament is political, WORD is mainly concerned with educating the students on the relevant moral, sociological and technical aspects of the issue.

The time has come for the UNB Student Union to take a stand, be it political or otherwise, on the disarmament issue. Fredericton should know the students of this campus are concerned about the problem.

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In conclusion, a note to Pierre. Bye, bye baby. It's about time.

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