

soundoff

"....a little justice is essential"

Dear Editor:

Over the past month and a half, a series of correspondence has appeared in your paper stemming from a column from John Geary in the sports section of the February 3 *Brunswickan*. This supposedly humorous column denigrated women as being nothing more than sexual objects, and used as one example a particular demeaning reference to menstruation. This most natural of monthly cycles was apparently singled out because it showed that women were "inoperable" for a certain period of time, whereas a television set would go on for ever. There were objections expressed about this outlook upon a woman's worth, and then further rebuttal by Geary in an attempt to explain why such a column should not really bother anyone because it was all in fun, and anyway, there were more important issues at stake.

Regardless of the smokescreens of excess verbiage and the rambles about "lectual abilities, I

have yet to see any explanation as to why the belittling of half the human race is not a serious matter. I, personally, did not enjoy being dismissed as having no worth because of a natural function which my body goes through every month. I can not understand why the author of this original column can not comprehend the anger which this type of dismissal causes in women. What if he were ridiculed in a public forum for something over which he had no control? It is bad enough that women have been put forward as funny playthings who bleed, but it is in a way even worse that when offended women make legitimate protests, they are further ridiculed for not "understanding" and told that the "real issue" at hand is 'not allowing people to think differently then themselves.'

All these half-baked evasions must be put aside. If there were no room for protest when something disagreeable appeared, we would be courting either anarchy, or a state where a Hitler could arise. But, as yet another situation is

upon us, so I will explain as basically as possible why the comments regarding Geary's column must be addressed.

No amount of retracted apology can cancel out that sports column. There is no issue here of personal opinion or individual interpretation as regards what that column said. Women WERE discarded as sex objects in it, and a base, demeaning reference WAS made about the bodily function of menstruation. There has been no attempt to stifle Geary's freedom of speech, no action taken to

make him retract his opinions. Yet he claims that any form of dissent is immature, ignorant, and misses the mark of what is really important. He has implied that what is really important is that every one be allowed their own opinion - yet - he castigates those who have responded unfavourably to what he has said. Where is this tolerance which he talks so much about?

There comes a time when tolerance turns into becoming a pushover and when an intolerable thing has been done then tolerance should

be forgone. It is not an opinion that ws degrading, it is a FACT. Both by statement and implication, women were relegated solely to their sexual role, and when that role is (supposedly) interrupted, their worth disappears altogether. There is no possible way that this outlook could be taken as anything else but demeaning and degrading. All other issues are secondary until this one is corrected. I do not away an apology, but a little justice is essential.

Sincerely
Stephanie Towers

Sidewalks need plowing

Dear Editor:

I would like to voice a personal complaint of my own, which I know is a strong complaint of many others.

I refer to the storm which occurred Wednesday afternoon and continued intermittently until Sunday evening.

Walking to classes is quite a chore when you

have to go through snowdrifts and oceans of slush on the sidewalks.

I know we have a physical plant crew. I see them riding around in their trucks

all the time. I think it would be nice if they were put to constructive use.

Is it too much to ask if someone would plow the sidewalks?

M. Price

Bartley's comment misleading

Editor:

I was most dismayed to read Brent Bartley's misleading letter about the "political situation" on campus.

In it Bartley commented on the "antagonistic" actions of a powerful "group of people" who represented only a small percentage of UNB students. He accused "them" of being blindly led along by a "certain individual."

What makes Bartley's comments interesting, are the hundreds of signed complaints arriving at the Student Union office against a powerful "group of people" who just hiked campus liquor administration fees by 125%...Brent Bartley and the SUB Holding Board. Still more intriguing is the fact that Bartley was "blindly led along" by a "certain individual" named UNB V.P. James O'Sullivan.

Bartley is living proof that Aesop was right when he said, "Men are too apt to condemn in others the very things they do themselves." He has consistently opposed the wishes of the students of UNB. He participated in the preparation of the new catering tender which would once again grant a monopoly to the food company. He personally moved the motion to renew the existing Smoke Shoppe's lease for three years, knowing full well that their prices were outrageous. When confronted with the 73% Yes vote for a student-owned store he responded "that's just nonsense!" Brent Bartley's record speaks for itself...he will long be remembered as one of the worst appointees ever to serve on the SUB Board.

As a final note, the money available for enter-

tainment is actually increasing due to Campus Services' expanded revenue operations. The most important Campus Services branch is the EXCHANGE, which is financially self-supporting, while also turning over modest revenue to subsidize campus entertainment. Our audited statements are available to the public and demonstrate the relative strength of the corporation.

Might I suggest that Brent Bartley run for an elected position on council before next attempting to speak on behalf of all of us. It is, after all, the membership that makes the decisions in this Student Union.

John Bosnitch
THE PRESIDENT
STUDENT UNION

Red Devils #1

Dear Editor:

We would like to congratulate Don MacAdam, the Red Devils for a job very well done for the 1983-84 hockey season.

The Red Devils deserve to be the A.U.A.A. champs and are a super team. Maybe now that the fans have seen what the Devils can do they will make a

greater effort to attend more games in the 1984-85 season. With great players such as Mark Welton, Kurt Rugenius, Mike Kelly and last but not most of all not least Jamie Frizzell we will be no. 1 in Canada next year.

RED DEVILS YOU'RE NO.

!!
We love you.

Lady Dunn Girls

