

# Blood & Thunder

Letters to the Editor must be signed and contain a phone number where the writer can be reached. Length: 300 words max. The Brunswickan reserves the right to edit for clarity, grammar and length. **Deadline: Monday 5:00pm**

## BAR SERVICES

To the Editor,

This is a commentary on the preposterous and most undemocratic practices going on at the University of New Brunswick in Fredericton.

Bar Services, an organization which up until last year provided the cash bar for all on-campus events, is now defunct with the exception of events going on at the Student Union Building. This is unfortunate but because of financial difficulties the reduction of the services provided by this organization can be excused. The new food and alcohol laws at the University which have come into effect to replace Bar Services cannot be excused.

All events which are to include a cash bar held in certain licensed rooms on the campus must now be

organized by Beaver Foods, the catering contractor of dubious quality for the UNB campus. There is, however, one glitch in the system. Beaver Bar Services, or whatever the organization is called, will only provide the cash bar services if the food for the given event is also provided by Beaver Foods. This, in my opinion, is unfair to all clubs and societies but especially the smaller ones with small budgets. A society now cannot provide an event without going through the expensive and not always satisfactory services of Beaver Foods.

To my mind this situation is an outrage. In a free country like Canada with a capitalist economy such an economic system which is, in effect, a monopoly system, cannot be condoned in a University environment. The cash bar service should be one that Beaver, if it is the only organization capable of performing such a service, should be

able to provide for any event whether catered by the company itself, by the students, or by another caterer.

I do not know if this situation has only had such a profound impact on me or whether other people and organizations have felt the injustice of this system. I think, however, that it is definitely a policy that should be changed and the sooner the better. I hope that if the Vice-President Finance of the University becomes aware of the existence of a problem, some action will be taken to change this hurtful and monopolistic policy

Paul Lenarczyk  
President,  
Arts Undergraduate Society  
UNB

## BED PUSH

Dear Editor:

It is not my practice to award praise publicly. Ordinarily, I find the meaning is greater when it is said in private and there is nothing to be gained for me by saying it, except the chance to make a genuine expression of gratitude and respect. I wish, however, to step out of this norm to express my pride and respect for the young men of Neville House who, this weekend, demonstrated all

of the finer qualities of young people when they succeeded in raising over three thousand dollars to set up a special projects fund for Fredericton's Transition House.

Of their own accord, these young men planned and implemented the return of the Neville House Bed Push, and this time they decided that it was appropriate to raise awareness for the problems of women and children in this city who are in crisis, as well as money for a worthy cause. This money will go to provide Transition House with things their own funding may not be able to provide. I firmly believe, also, that what they did on the road between St. John and Fredericton on Friday night and Saturday morning will also raise the consciousness, not only of themselves, but also of the residents of the city, to the issues and problems faced by women. Not a bad feat for a group of people who do not even reside here, because the very fact that they live in residence indicates that they are not native to this city.

In a time when it makes good press on campus to publicly dissect the actions of those who live in residence to display all of their faults and foibles, I feel that this event and the actions of all the "residents" of this University who are committed to providing for charity in the city, should be

acknowledged and praised with the same gusto with which they are criticized.

I was there during this event, and I hereby state publicly: guys, I'm proud of you.

Stan McDonald  
Don, Neville House

## GREENPEACE

Dear Editor,

Last week I wrote an article talking about how we need to educate people on environmental issues that are facing us today. Well after submitting last weeks (sic) article I realized that more needs to be said on other issues. Educating the public is what we need to do and this past summer I had the opportunity (sic) to do just that working with GREENPEACE. I'd like to point out that they are the largest Non-Profit environmental group in the world and was founded here in Canada back in the early '70's and has 500,000 supporters in Canada alone and over 6,000,000 around the world. Now they have done alot (sic) of work around the world and even have two observer seats in the United Nations and their idea about educating the public is as strong as mine which is how and

## EPISODE

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## OPINION

BY EMMANUEL SKOULAS

## Je me souviens

There once was a man named Brian  
Who by now is probably cryin'  
The people with a shout  
Said enough - GET OUT!  
Thanks to you, our country is dyin'.

So we have a new Parliament by now. It is difficult to be hopeful that things will get better soon, because the damage done by Brian and his boys is pretty close to irreversible.

When Brian first became PM in 1984, he said, "give us 20 years, and you won't recognize this country." Well, he will be pleased to know that it's only been 9 years, and I don't recognize this country.

The Conservatives have tried to make the deficit the main issue in the campaign. Yet in their 9 years in power, the deficit has hovered around \$30-35 Billion annually, even though the Conservative Finance Ministers have been saying since the mid-eighties that the deficit will be down to a few billion within 5 years. Now they want me to believe it can be knocked down to

zero in 5 years with no negative consequences to an economy that already has 1.6 million unemployed. No, I don't believe you.

The greatest damage inflicted by the Conservatives during the past 9 years has not, however, been regarding the economy, the deficit or the deterioration of social programs. The greatest damage has been to our consciousness. Most Canadians have lost hope, over the past 9 years, that the damage can be undone. Most have given up believing or hoping that their voice can make a difference. Our politicians do what they want, and we can't stop them.

The election we just had gives me hope. One year ago, we Canadians overwhelmingly rejected the Charlottetown Accord in spite of the fact that the governments had \$500 million to spend, bullying us to believe and vote Yes, in spite of the fact that all these "important" people were continually paraded before us, some saying if we didn't do what they said, the country would fall to pieces.

When we said "no", they picked up the pieces of their pride, and moved on, thinking we had a national catharsis on Oct. 25, 1992. The fools didn't think the No meant anything more than no to the Accord. We voted NO because something is horribly wrong, and though they forgot, we didn't.

I believe that the past 9 years of the Mulroney government is as responsible as Lucien Bouchard for the rise of separatist feelings among Quebecers. Mulroney wanted to win the '84 and '88 elections so badly that he courted the separatists, and promised things to Quebec that were impossible to get without separation. For 9 years he kept giving them hope about things that he could not possibly deliver. He awoke a consciousness in the people, and it has not been satisfied. The BQ is now the expression of that consciousness.

Nine years ago Quebec separatists were in the minority now they are the majority. Once a consciousness is awakened, it does not easily fade. It is moved to action. Quebecers voted NO in 1992 for much the same reason as the rest of us. There is something horribly wrong with the government we've got.

We all want clean air and water, jobs, access to an education that doesn't bankrupt us, and an economy that doesn't alienate just about everybody who isn't rich or about to be.

For the past 9 years, Quebecers have been told they can get what they want, and when they didn't get it, they elected people who will get it for them. They demanded satisfaction and they got it. Next time is our turn. There is something wrong with the government we've had for the past 9 years, and if this one still doesn't give us what we want, we will remember the '93 election, we will remember that we can get what we want. It's ironic, but to a degree the election of the BQ gives me hope. Something was awakened in us on Oct. 25, 1992. This is only the beginning.

As René Lévesque said in 1980, "à la prochaine."

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