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by Roberta Brown

There would appear to be a common misconception circulating throughout this university about a very reputable faculty. Who are these kudos you ask? Well they could be described as shirt-andtie wearin', card dealin', roulette wheelin' cigar sellin' Chippendales and Bunnies. Of course, a lot of people here at the university may not recognize them as just depicted.

Perhaps if I were to describe them as workboot-hardhat-woolsock-plaid wearing, chainsaw lugging timber beasts you would know who I was talking about. That's right, the highly stereotyped faculty of FORESTRY!!

Where do the shirt and ties come in and what was this about Chippendales and Bunnies, you ask. Well, aside from the occasional interview of formal, we have been known to get a little extreme and dress up in attire other than plaid and wool. This tends to happen on the last weekend in March as a means of stress relief before all the final papers and exams are due. What we do is hold our own mock Monte Carlo event that is open to everyone, where even the professors come out to enjoy the fun.

Every year we hold this event. There are numerous local retailers who donate

their merchandise for prizes at the endof-the-evening-auction. Each person that comes in and pays the entrance fee gets

\$5000 in funny money to bet with. At the end of the night we auction off the merchandise to the highest bidder. Last year we had leather jackets and hotel certificates for a weekend for two as our more expensive prizes but there were lots of other items to bid on as well.

I can remember how much fun it was last year. We had it at the Capital Winter Club and it was only a cost of five dollars a person. With a price like that you couldn't go wrong for an evening of entertainment. Especially since the event was open to everyone who wanted to come and not just foresters, it made for one very memorable evening, I think!!

The signs should be going up to advertise when and where some time soon. I only hope I don't miss it this year. I know that those of us in forestry sure do need a break. I'm not really sure what the other faculties do for fun but I bet they don't have an event like one. Actually the only way that they would be able to compare our event to theirs would be to come out to MONTE CARLO this year, that is if we haven't missed it.

Next week students will be asked in a referendum whether or not they want to drop out of CFS. Presumably, the withdrawal from CFS will be accompanied by joining CASA. Normally, I try to avoid issues such as these, since I consider student politics at all levels to be worth only the résumé content that it generates. However, the extreme vapidity of the Student Union's campaign against the CFS has forced me to comment

The most glaring offense that the Student Union has committed during this campaign is the fact that they have taken a stance at all. Given the supposed importance of this issue to UNB's students, one might expect that our Student Union would find it appropriate to inform the students of this campus of the issues at stake. Instead, the Student Union has elected to run a rabid and rather childish propaganda campaign against CFS. They have not even pretended to provide the electorate with something even resembling an unbiased comparison of CFS and CASA, or even bothered with the simple expedient of discussing CFS at a rational level

I am, however, in a sense happy that they have elected to conduct their little propaganda battle, since it shows us exactly where our Student Union and the

"They have not even pretended to provide the electorate with something even resembling an unbiased comparison of CFS and CASA, or even bothered with the simple expedient of discussing CFS at a rational level."

Merry Men and Women of CASA stand. By painting CFS as a bunch of radical communistic liberals, our Student Union has revealed itself as being a haven for the neo-conservatives in our midst. Perhaps their self-centred, bottom line first and always approach, is an accurate reflection of the students here at UNB. After all,

Business students have accounted for our last several SU Presidents; but I prefer to think that UNB's students have yet to become that jaded and mercenary. If you happen to glance at any of the

vast myriad of posters which our Student Union has plastered the walls of our campus with, you will find that the complaints against CFS have a repetitive tone. Many of the suggested reasons for voting against CFS strike me as reasons for voting in favour of CFS, especially if it is taken as implied that CASA would reverse these policies. CASA and our Student Union, in their cold practicality, have taken the classic neo-conservative approach of looking out for number one to the exclusion of all others. Unfortunately, the student community is not the only community which must be considered.

In fact, given the transient nature of the student population, a short sighted vision such as that being presently advocated by our Student Union actually represents a betrayal of the students by whom they were elected.

In a sense, the platforms of CFS can be termed as idealistic. This, however, is an offense which I am more than willing to accept of a student organisation. I like to think that students remain idealistic enough to hope that their generation will somehow be capable of improving the lot of the world. It is true that in the past the reality has not been the equal of the dream, just as the same will also probably be true of the future, but it is a mistake to think that students have been totally ineffectual. The Civil Rights and Equal Rights movements, while both falling far short of their promise, have accomplished great gains. Both relied on students for a large part of their moral impetus. Our Student Union, however, is telling us that it is already time for us to give up; that we

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...and your life

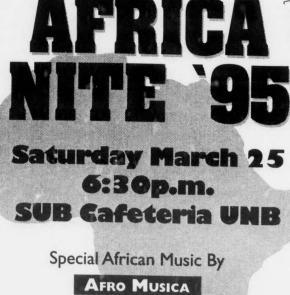
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