

High paper costs mean low bank accounts for you

by Michael Drost
Brunswickan News

Increases in textbook prices could affect the student pocketbook.

"Due to dramatic increases in the price of paper, students returning to colleges and universities this September will likely pay more for their textbooks than in previous years," wrote Patricia Bell of the Canadian Book Publishers' Council in *Explosion in Paper Prices Affect Book Publishers and Students*.

Although the paper prices throughout Canada have increased by over 25%, students will feel only about a 10-15% increase in text prices, due to the spreading and allocation of costs, according to Bell.

She predicts however that many Canadian books will remain stable due to long-range planning and forecasting.

"Many of the books which are less used, mid-range textbooks, will go up in price due to shorter runs in their circulation, and thus less of an opportunity to recapture costs, and an even less opportunity to make a profit," said Doug McConnell, Manager of the UNB Bookstore.

"Costs to reprint will be significantly higher than previous prices," McConnell noted.

McConnell explained that if the bookstore has to order more books than

anticipated, then the costs may be considerably higher if the publishing company does not have sufficient inventory and has to reprint.

As a Canadian university, it is extremely important that Canadian students have accessibility to Canadian authored and published textbooks.

"The only way we are going to be able to continue to provide access is to ensure the affordability of Canadian texts," suggested John Neale, President of the Canadian Book Publishers' Council in a Canadian Book Publishers Council news release.

According to this press release, book distributors are also fighting to keep the prices down, but distributors are more or less required to follow the market price.

"Over the past year, our cost of paper has gone up 30-40%," Mike Purcell, Merchandising Supervisor at Unisource, a paper distributor was quoted in the Council news release.

Although prices have drastically increased since the end of 1994, several factors must be taken into consideration as contributing to the increases, such as the recession, changes in the industry, the value of the Canadian dollar, manufacturing and printing costs, the run of the text, and taxes.

"Prices in January 1995 are at the same level as they were in 1988," said



Kissing their money good bye. These students are feeling the financial crush of buying texts
photo by Maria Paisley

Pierre Lachance, Public Relations Director for the Canadian Pulp and Paper Association in the Council news release.

As one can see, there is more to the skyrocketing textbook prices than just the authors out to make a buck.

Staff meeting

Brunswickan News

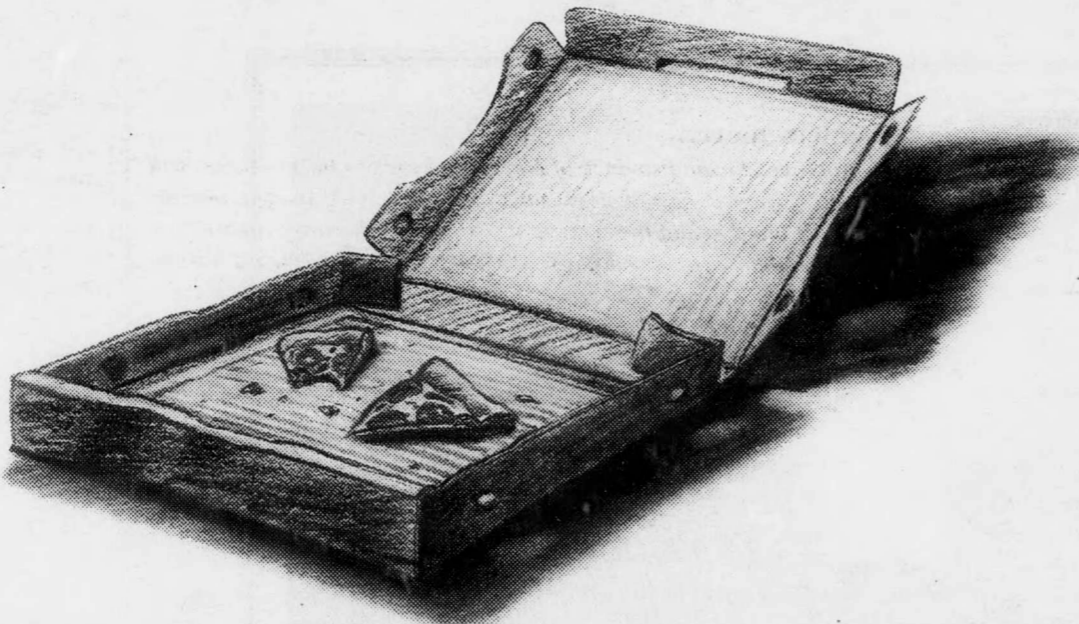
The *Brunswickan* will be having a staff meeting at 12:30pm today, All present, former and new staff are

welcomed.

Please bring along any Burl Ives collectibles to rm 35 of the SUB.

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It's all downhill

21st Annual Coaster Derby set for Sept. 30

PRESS RELEASE

The 21st Annual Coaster Derby, the grand finale to Engineering Week 1995, will be held on September 30. Once again it is being put on by the Student Society of Mechanical Engineers. It will take place on Mackay Drive, starting at approximately at 9:00 am and going to 2:00 pm.

To any one who does not know what the Coaster Derby is, it is when student build gravity powered cars and race them down the university hill. This is NO SOAPBOX DERBY, this is hard high speed racing with thrills, spills, and collisions!

There will also be a BBQ with hotdogs, hamburgers, and pop, along with the Public Address System, by Jones House. There will also be t-shirts for sale during engineering week and during the race.

Also this year we have added an international flavor, as the Maine Maritime Academy will be participating this year, after two years of just observing the fun.

Watch for posters in Head Hall for more information. If you have any questions feel free to contact Darren Thompson at 450-6871 or Trevor Nichol at 454-6029. Hope to see you there!