

A library with no books

Take the time to read through the Senate minutes published in this issue of the University Perspectives. In the minutes, there is a long section of the perils of the library. The fact of the matter is, the library's budget has remained static as inflation and increased costs have eroded its purchasing power. Within a relatively short time (say five years) the library of this university will become worse than useless if the trend continues. As with all sectors of the university the library's budget is substantially salaries. With the necessary increases in salary, the per cent of the library budget devoted to books and periodicals is shrinking annually.

From all appearances, the Senate is very concerned about this problem. The Brunswickan wants to know whether they are concerned enough to give the library the extra \$100,000 annually it needs to buy more books.

The government has found only enough money to give a marginal increase this year and it is time, perhaps unlike last year, to look at zero-based budgeting for the university.

This means instead of looking for an automatic increase in all budgets, look to see the real worth and need of a particular program or service.

Instead of cutting back things like Public Relations and Development, The Art Centre, and staff budgets, the university should look to see where the money goes and if, compared to buying new books it is not as important, cancel the whole program.

The Brunswickan can sympathize with the university for taking the short term approach the last two years on the theory that things are going to get better. It is now clear that they are not going to get better, and it is time for a long term approach.

Surely the library and academic functions are substantially more important than many of the peripheral luxuries that we have enjoyed in years past.

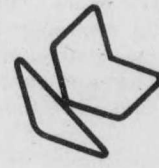
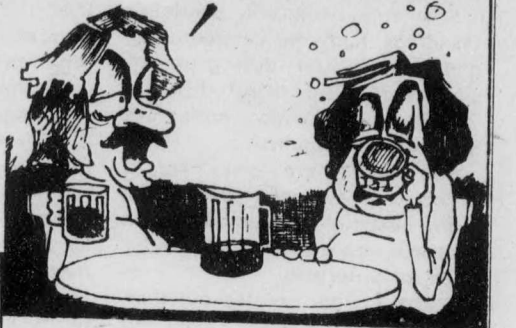
It may be all very nice to keep these people and programs in the budget but a university without a decent library is not much of a university.

In the name of all students, The Brunswickan demands that more money be allocated to the library to buy books, and maintain staff levels.

WITH A TUITION INCREASE WE SHOULD RECEIVE A MUCH WIDER RANGE OF COURSES...



...WHICH WOULD UNDOUBTEDLY RAISE THE INTELLECT OF THE AVERAGE STUDENT..



AND RESULT IN A HIGHER STANDARD OF EDUCATION AND INCREASE THE QUALITY OF THE LEARNING PROCESS...



...THEN AGAIN MAYBE THE BASTARDS WILL JUST KEEP IT !!



SUB Board plays politics

Last week, The Brunswickan expressed the editorial opinion that CHSR's request for more space should be given serious consideration. At their last meeting, the SUB Board gave anything but serious consideration to this request.

It is very hard to fathom exactly why the SUB Board would say no without any consideration of the matter. It isn't hard, however, to imagine possible reasons for this. It appears that politics matters more to the SUB Board than the optimal use of the building and giving the users of the building a fair shake.

It is important to notice the word fair here. As was pointed out last week, an equitable shake

would result in Saint Thomas having a broom closet somewhere in the basement.

The use of secret ballots adds yet another disgrace to the SUB board's treatment of this issue, for it is clear that they cannot even face the people whom they represent with a decision.

The Brunswickan feels that the SUB Board owes CHSR an apology for the shoddy treatment it received at the SUB Board. The two members of the SUB Board who took it upon themselves to move a motion of refusal before the arguments could be heard should be thoroughly ashamed of themselves for such underhanded and unfair tactics.

Perhaps the worst problem that

this incident has illustrated lies in the feelings expressed by the Saint Thomas representatives on the Board. It appears that Saint Thomas feels that UNB is constantly trying to rip them off.

The Brunswickan can find no evidence of this. As it now stands, Saint Thomas students can buy our winter carnival tickets, and tickets to any event during the rest of the year on an equal basis with UNB students. The facilities of The Brunswickan and CHSR are open to STU students on an equal basis. CHSR is put into the STU residences on an equal basis as all the UNB residences for which they pay about 25% of what it actually costs to put it in there. For the SUB itself, an estimate would indicate that UNB students

pay about 98% of the costs of the building either through direct student levies or through unrestricted grants and tuition to the University of New Brunswick. UNB students, however constitute only about 86% of the student population on this campus.

The Brunswickan would not presume to influence a decision of the SUB Board. The Brunswickan does, however, demand that the SUB Board take a less political and partisan approach to the use of the building as its constitution and by-laws demands. If they do not, the whole reason for existence of the SUB Board is negated and should be abolished, which would have most unfortunate consequences for us all.