

David Miller

Here it is, almost time for the snow to begin and nothing much seems to have happened here at UNB. I have never seen the place so sleepy. This may be the result of an increase in the amount of studying going on. Certainly one could find some justification for such an occurrence. It is getting bloody expensive to come here. When my father came here, possibly \$400 would do you through the year. When I first started, \$2,000 would buy you the chance to study, and whatever turns you on. Now, \$3,000 seems to be a minimum price for an eight month fix of academia. Those \$3,000 are much harder to come by as well.

On the other hand, it could be that 'visible life' at UNB is much more boring that it used to be. Restraint of late, and a curious set of priorities have produced a campus which has superlative athletic facilities and non-existent or boring alternatives. I am proud to tell people that we have three gyms, a huge swimming pool, three football fields and the finest rink in this part of the world. However, that boasting always results in a twinge of conscience because I know damn right well that fewer than one third of the student body ever use or interact with these facilities save to register or write exams.

We have a beautiful student union building. Well, beautiful on the outside. The designers of the SUB came from the southern United States and we bought a building that, while beautiful, cannot cope with the Fredericton climate and has the dubious honour of having one of the worst space utilization factors of any university building in the Atlantic area.

During visits to several British universities, but particularly Cambridge, I was struck by the pleasantness of going there. They have the three gyms, football fields etcetera, but they also have facilities for those who are not interested in sports. Clearly, people have decided that two thirds of a student population deserve some priority as well.

Since 1969, when the SUB was built, the university has failed to pay other than lip service to the concept of providing alternative recreation facilities. In that period, only one million has been spent on the non-athletic side of recreation (for the SUB itself), while over four million has been spent the other way. I find this proportion rather annoying.

A reasonable theatre (for both stage and movies), a games room, much more lounge space and a consolidated student services are just a few of the many things that we need to make UNB a more pleasant place. People say that there is no money and that the student body is leveling off, so why bother? I think that's bunk. If there was a will to make some of these possible, they could happen. Unhappily the priorities seem to be set such that the seeds of the 'silent' majority are set aside in favour of those who can make the most noise.

Sadly, I expect that it will still be possible to take a cruise around the campus in about five years and see what can be seen any night now. Nothing of importance will be happening. The Social Club will contain its usual collection of serious drinkers, staff, and meetings. The Faculty Club will attract groups of urbane lawyers and graduate students discussing the importance of being earnest. The rest will have put their time cards in the out rack, having made the decision to think of UNB merely as a place of work.

The Biology Society meeting the other night was concerned with a talk by Dr. A. Swartz on the subject of sex reversal in fishes. It seems that there are a number of fish which are capable of changing sex. This can be: (1) all individuals being born female and some changing to male, (2) all being born male and some changing to female, or (3) some being born female and changing to male, some being born female and staying that way regardless, and some being born male. Other permutations are possible.

One particular species of fish found in the South Pacific was the subject of some research by Dr. Swartz. It seems that all of the individuals of this species are born females. Since a male or two is sort of handy (to have around the coral reef), some of the females change into males, maintaining a sex ratio of approximately 4:1 (female to male). Usually the biggest and fittest females change into males when a male is needed. Remarkably, not very much is known about this interesting subject.

Consider the completely absurd notion that man utilized the advantages of sex reversal. In an average population, children up to age 13 or 14 would be sugar and spice and all things nice - because there would be no little boys around. Round about that age, the biggest and strongest females would turn into males (that might be a bit of a trauma!). Hopefully the sex ratio would be closer to 1:1 than 4:1. Life could be pretty 'normal', I expect.

The trouble would start at university. After a few months within the confines of a women's residence, half of the girls there would turn into males. Kind of boggles the mind, doesn't it?

Although I am a biologist myself, and perhaps am a bit prejudiced, I really rather enjoy seminars and presentations on the life sciences. In our society, there is a tremendous preoccupation with the supernatural, the UFO and the chariots of the gods. As Carl Sagan, has said, and as I would say myself, there is more than enough real and profound mystery in all science. It is certainly more than true that you do not have to be a biologist, nor even a science student to get something out of the Biology Society presentations.

UNB fall open-Nov. 10

By F. MCKIM

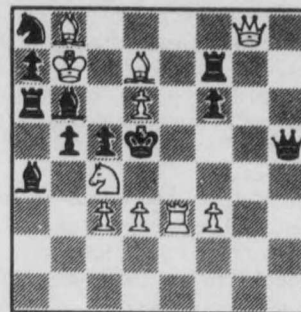
WORLD The match for the world championship now stands at 5 games apiece as Korchnoi won the 31st game to tie things up. Game 32 is currently in progress with Karpov having a better game at the adjournment. World Champion will be the winner of the next game.

PROVINCIAL A reminder that the Edmundston Open will take place Oct 27-29 at St. Louis University.

CLUB Advance notice for the

UNB Fall Open Nov. 10 - 12. Play will be in two sections, with the A section being 6 rounds over the three days and the B section ending Saturday. The Chess Club continues to grow with three new members this week. Chess Club meets Tuesday nights at 7:00 p.m. SUB Room #26.

Chess Problem #5
White to play & Mate in 2
Solution to problem #4
1. Q-NB Px8
2. R-B6 check KxR
3. Q-Q6 mate



U.W. on way to its goal

By MIKE MACKINNON

This is the third week of the United Way Campaign and so far it is going slowly. About 80 people have donated to the campaign with an average donation of \$82. Twenty-five percent of the overall goal has been reached. Things are coming slowly and it is hoped that the pace will soon pick up. The level of contribution is good and if this level remains and the number of contributions reaches the amount of last year then the goal will be reached according to J.D. Rodgers campus chairperson.

The Nurses will be holding a Rock-a-thon on November 4th.

This works on the basis of people sponsoring the nurses for so much an hour with the nurses rocking for a maximum of 12 hours. The skating party will be held on Sunday, October 29th. Hopefully many students will get involved. So far there has been no word on what student organizations are getting involved. However, last year these organizations started late with the earliest beginning October 29th. A campaign was planned for the football game last weekend but the rain put an end to those plans.

Compared to the city campaign the campus campaign is pretty

well on target. The government offices such as N.B. Power have already reached 70 to 80 per cent of their objective.

Anybody who can possibly help please do so because no donation is too small.

COMMUNITY BULLETIN
Chorus rehearsals for the Gilbert and Sullivan Society of Fredericton's spring production of Iolanthe will begin Wednesday, November 1 at 8 o'clock in the George Street Junior High School. This set of rehearsals will continue each Wednesday until December 6. For further information call 454-9432.

Letters to the Editor

A thought to ponder

Dear Editor:

As election draws near and politicians along with would be ones take to the streets in search of our vote, I hope that they, in their possible positions of influence, pause a moment in their fervor to listen to the voice of the people.

The time is ripe for us as individuals to begin to realize that the way we vote gives us the opportunity to place into these positions of importance those persons who will build this Province into the place we want our families to live, to grow and to build a better future in. A place that holds the individual rights of all persons as the foremost point of concern with a political system that opens itself to the individual for constructive comment and criticism.

Long have there been within this province people in all walks of life who have workable solutions to the problems of government who have not been given an opportunity to voice their ideas and opinions.

The resulting anger and apathy toward any of the governing parties is caused by the frustration of not being able to be heard.

Growth is the answer, growth is our awareness of ourselves as individuals who can give forth and learn a creative awareness within ourselves.

The resultant growth in all areas of understanding and communication will allow us the leadership that will make possible the opportunities to seek and find the

peace prosperity and happiness that should be the end due each one of us.

To you who are in the positions of wanting our support for this next election I say this. Now is the beginning of OUR future and it is my feeling that those who will begin to open the government to the voice of the people will not

only insure their person victories but also a collective chance of a responsive, integrated system that will begin to show others elsewhere that there is a workable solution that can lead to peace, prosperity and happiness for all persons.

Frances R. Christian

AFS O.K. at first

Dear Editor:

I have to take exception to a remark by Susan Shalala in the October 10, 1978, issue of University Perspectives that the Atlantic Federation of Students was "marred by disruptions" since its inception.

I do not question the UNB students' union's move to withdraw from the organization or that AFS did not unfold as intended.

However, I was at the conference in the 1974 - 1975

academic year when AFS was founded. That conference was held at UNB and organized by UNB students, and the AFS office was set up at UNB.

The volunteers who ran the organization had high ideals and got it off to an enthusiastic start.

They should not be blamed for the mistakes and shortcomings of those who followed.

Sincerely yours,
Derwin N. Gowen

Fresh air at last!

Dear Editor:

I would like to comment on the "no smoking policy" at STU. It's great I only wish more students could read especially since there's no smoking signs in each of the classrooms yet there's still some illiterate people who light up. Three cheers for any professor

who enforces this rule, one particular great guy is P. MacDonald. I can actually breathe in his classes and not come out with a headache. Other professors please take note.

Thanks for the space to air my beef.

Sign me
An emphysema victim