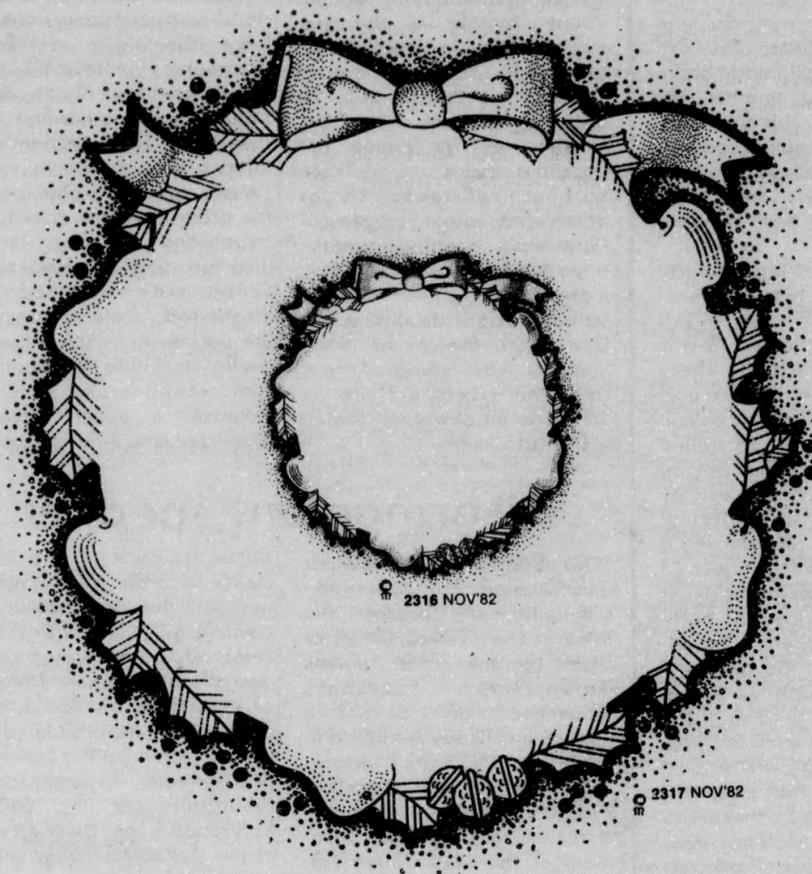


Peace on earth.



Dear Santa,

Well, we've made our list and have checked it twice and we've all come to pretty well the same conclusion about what we want for our collective *Brunswickan* Christmas present. A little peace and quiet.

We're tired of the fighting and screaming and broken promises. We want to be able to concentrate on exams and then, when those are over and done with, Christmas shopping, friends and good food.

We want the true spirit of kindness to enter the hearts of all those people who seem to be bent on spoiling the good intentions of others. What we really want is to be able to look at anyone and wish them a Merry Christmas. And mean it.

Sincerely,

The *Brunswickan*

I guess that just about sums up the way we feel about what's been going on around the SUB over the past little while. But with the joyous Christmas season quickly ap-

proaching it seems to be time to forgive and forget. 1982 is almost over, and it would be horrible to think we were going to come back to this same mess in the new year.

Christmas tends to be a rather hypocritical time. It's as though people make special efforts to renew dead friendships, look up old acquaintances, in order to collect more presents for under their tree. Christmas might bring out the best in people but it also tends to bring out the phoniest in even the best of us.

So, if someone were to really ask us what we wanted for Christmas, it wouldn't be a new processor, more staffers or even better furniture, it would be the chance to be the people we really are, the decent, fair, likeable people that no one ever sees because we always seem to get backed into a corner that forces us into the mask of people we aren't. If that makes any sense.

We all say and do things we don't mean. Christmas isn't the time to make concessions for these things, but it just might be a second chance for everybody.

Christmas was easier when we

were younger, naive, idealistic. We didn't believe in the big bad wolf, only that all our dreams would come true. I don't think this is what any of us dreamed. No one ever thought that two groups of students would ever spend so much time fighting and arguing about something on which they should be working collectively to improve.

We can't solve all the problems in the world with a wave of the magic wand, and there's not enough of the milk of human kindness to feed all the starving, but there's no reason we can't start by making our own corner of the world a little nicer.

It may all sound very soppy, but it's an attempt. It's contrived, because why should we need an excuse, but if that's what it takes to make it all a bit more pleasant and human then we at the *Brunswickan* are willing to take the first step.

So everyone, Best Wishes and Merry Christmas to everyone, from the last person we yelled at, to the last person whose letter or article was omitted, to the people we attack through the press and lastly the members of the SRC. Best of all, we mean all of this - sincerely.