

## Fish a definite asset to university

### Whom It May Concern,

This letter is to address the Wimmin's Room column in the November 6, 1992 edition of *The Brunswickan* concerning the slandering of Dr. Thomas Fish and Saint Thomas University.

In this article the university's ability to make objective judgments has been brought into question. Dr. Fish, who has been unjustly accused of being unqualified to teach human relations, has remained employed by the university for several years following the accusations in question. We as the 1993 undergraduate class of honours in psychology respect and take pride in the university's decision to firmly endorse such a highly qualified professor. We feel that Dr. Fish is a definite asset to the psychology department and the university community at large.

Each year Dr. Fish is approached by hundreds of students from both UNB and Saint Thomas wishing to enroll or audit his "human relations" class - a fact that we feel is an obvious indicator of his professional competence.

As the Honours program Coordinator, Dr. Fish has proven to be more than a professor. We unanimously agree that he has treated us with the utmost of respect, dignity and compassion. The Honours class consists of six women and one man, none of whom feel threatened in the least by this man. As representatives of our "Good Ol' Catholic" university, we would like to communicate our displeasure with Ms. Kilfoil's unjustified and uninformed judgment of our fine institution and one of its top-ranking professors by suggesting she and others like her take heed of the following advice:

"Whichever one of you has committed no sin may cast the first stone" (John 8:7)

Colette Conohan  
Sheryl McEachrean  
Krista Martin  
Paula Jardine  
Tania Carr  
Ann Shannon  
Corey Inman

### Tabloid-like material

Dear Editor,

For the past two years or so, your paper has chosen to print a number of libelous attacks on my character and my suitability to teach at university. These attacks are often submerged in the "misterogynous" content of the WIMMIN'S ROOM, but have also appeared on the front page and in letters to the editor. In your publication, I have been accused of abusing my power as a professor to intimidate, manipulate and suppress the minds of my students. In your last issue, my competence in teaching anything to do with "human relations" was called into question. In various articles over the last two years, I have been associated with the likes of sex offenders, child molesters, racists, rapists, etc. One article actually stated that my students were putting themselves in danger by being in a classroom with a monster like me. This is just a sample of the tabloid-like material that has appeared in *the Bruns*.

Apparently, the UNB Student Women's Committee, in addition to authoring much of the libelous garbage, has placed me on a 'hit' list of professors that students should avoid taking classes from. Well, I am happy to report that my course enrollments have gone UP over the last two years. I don't think this is because of a backlash, I think it is because I do a good job of teaching — period. My classes are non-sexist and I treat ALL of my students with the respect, fairness, dignity

and compassion that they deserve. I am not perfect and I don't pretend to be. I have made many mistakes in my life, some of which have been exploited and distorted beyond recognition in this publication and in other forums of communication.

I guess you could say that I've had enough of the vicious rumours, innuendos, slander and libelous attacks. I ask that you ensure that the publication of such libelous material cease immediately.

Thank you very much  
Sincerely,

Thomas A. Fish, Ph.D.  
Associate Professor  
Psychology  
STU

### Story does not break my heart

Dear editor,

To Mr. Taylor,

In response to your tragic incident on October 22, 1992 with a Student Taxi driver that you wrote about in the Blood and Thunder of November 6, 1992; I wish to inform you that your sob story does not break my heart.

As an experienced taxi driver struggling to pay my tuition, I have come across several incidents and people I

wish I never had come across. However, what burns me the most is about my "fellow" students that hop in my cab and jump out because the fare is too high. The reason it burns me is that during this process, I could be getting a "real" fare that doesn't mind paying what my company charges them. Furthermore, I find it strange that these students can afford to drink like there's no tomorrow and yet are too cheap to take a cab fare home from any taxi company other than Student Taxi. Let me point out that I do not work for Trius Inc. and its subsidiaries.

The city of Fredericton in my opinion is very spoiled when it comes to taxi fares. We are not on a meter system and thus, one can travel pretty well anywhere in the city for the price of a drink and tip. How many other cities can claim this?

In your letter, you claim that "If cab drivers can't make a decent living I suggest you get out of the business, or discuss your problem with your company..." Obviously you have no idea what your [sic] talking about. If we were to make even a half decent living in this industry, you the customer would suffer the most because we would have to raise the zone fares and that would mean the end of the \$2.50 downtown zone fare. Perhaps you would like this alternative, Mr. Taylor?

Sincerely, J.A. Paul Angers

### Disturbed with taxi situation

Dear Editor,

I have recently read a letter addressed to yourself which appeared in the *Brunswickan*, Nov. 6, 1992. Written by James Taylor regarding a very unpleasant experience he had with a local Taxi firm. From what Mr. Taylor wrote, it would appear that Student Taxi Co. and the alleged driver, Phil Cormier as well as an unidentified Fredericton City Police officer collectively contributed to an extremely disturbing situation for Mr. Taylor.

I am a member of the Fredericton City Council, Chairman of the Police Committee, former Chairman of the Legislation and Legal Services Committee and a member of the committee responsible for the drafting of By Law #R-6, commonly referred to as the Taxi By Law. I am also a former co-owner of a prominent Fredericton Taxi Business and a former President of the Fredericton Taxi Association.

The point of my letter is to state that I am very aware that incidents such as Mr Taylor described are recurring in this city on a daily basis. Both my colleagues on City Council and I are very disturbed by this situation. The only way we are going to be able to improve the quality of Taxi Services in

this city is for individuals like James Taylor to come forward and ask that the by law be enforced. That means that one must take the time to make an official complaint to the City Police Force and be prepared to follow through with the court process (i.e.) become a witness if the accused should plead Not Guilty and go to Trial. This is a lot to ask when an individual has been already inconvenienced and ripped off for two or three dollars. Hence, we have very few official complaints on file with the City Police Dept of at City Hall and we have had No By Law convictions in the last 4 years and probably not in the last 10 years.

Letter to the Editor do give a person an opportunity to ventilate frustration, however, this action should be followed up by pursuing the matter through the established bureaucratic process available. I want to encourage Mr. James Taylor to contact the City Police Dept and ask that a by-law violation be pressed. Also I invite Mr Taylor to contact me personally at City Hall and present his experience to the current Taxi Committee chaired by Counc. Mike Smith.

I would also encourage all your readers on campus to report all By law violations to the City Police and invest the time to give City Council the motivation to make substantive changes necessary to improve the Fredericton Taxi Industry. It is a slow, and frustrat

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