

David Miller

I would like to begin this week on a note of great seriousness. I wrote last week on the question of alcohol on campus, and this week I would like to bring to the attention of the students at UNB the absolutely devastating and grim truth of the fact that there are no swings on this campus. It is to be hoped that our elected representatives take heed, and do something about this crisis. Perhaps even more important is the lack of a ski tow for Mount Buchanan. This could be easily and cheaply constructed (given University approval) and would be a source of great enjoyment to students and school kids alike. It seems to me that these should be the type of ideas that our Student Representative Council pursue for the betterment of campus life.

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I heard some very disturbing news from a fairly reliable inside source that the government is thinking of dropping the 6.9 percent increase given last year to an even smaller level of increase. Although the Federal Government (despite all protests to the contrary) has decreased the rate of inflation, the effect could be that the governmental proportion of the budget is frozen in terms of today's dollars. This would, again, cause tuition increase and further cutbacks in service. In many ways the university, especially the administration, has failed to get the message to the public that the university not only harbours that dirty, dope sucking leech of society, the student, but also especially (although not exclusively) in the fields of science and applied science, generates much needed new knowledge in areas that affect everyday life. It seems to me that the university has got to, for its own survival, put this message across and that, although many professors are quite slack, most work very hard for pay approximating an apprentice plumber's. How this area can be so neglected is quite amazing to me and could amount to criminal negligence. Although we do seem to have a public relations program, there is absolutely no doubt that is not working when the government, knowing how little general public support exists for the university, uses that knowledge to cut the budget with impunity.

To put budget cutbacks on a human level. I will describe a situation which occurred in my department. Twenty-eight bright, young and most of all eager, students showed up at the appointed time and place to take a course. Unfortunately, no where in the building concerned was there a suitable lab which could hold more than sixteen people. To determine who could take the course this term and who could take these next term during night classes, there was a lottery! The instructor felt terrible, the students felt worse, and I'm sure the department per se regrets it. Although there is a certain amount of fat here at UNB, and yes; waste, surely this is going too far. The government is, of course, directly responsible for this sort of situation either by not giving the university enough money or perhaps giving it too little, too late.

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Having a certain amount of conflict with our Editor Ed, with regards to the use of "sexist" terms, last week's conflagration was over the term "student body". Managing Editor Derwin pointed out quite rightly, I thought, that to think "student body" is a sexist term implies a certain perversity. Philosophically I am opposed to terms like chairperson because they are not proper English words. However, language does flux, and perhaps such words will become an acceptable part of the language. We, at the Bruns, would appreciate a line or two to the Editor expressing your feelings on this matter.

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Council had a pretty fair meeting the other night. The objects of hottest contention were CSL and NUS. As for CSL, the fact of the matter is that if you were walking down the street and had \$2.50 in quarters in one pocket, and decided to transfer \$.50 into the other pocket, you would be essentially repeating what council did for CSL. Same body, different pockets.

As for the NUS question, it was made perfectly clear that UNB will not pay their fees to NUS until the matter of our membership is decided once and for all in October. Thank God for that.

The question most people ask about CSL is not whether they think CSL is a good and useful thing, for it is painfully obvious that it is the best thing that ever happened to the SRC, but rather are the executive competent to run the company in a business like manner, given no unnecessary interference from council? The answer to that question is, in my opinion, no. The company is right now being "babied" by several of the most experienced people on campus, in addition to the executive. The company will, however, after this year have the resources of an experienced and first rate staff. The SUB is run in this manner, the SRC has been for years, and given initial direction, so will CSL. One thing I was quite disgusted at was the lack of some sort of thanks to James Murray for one of, if not the finest, Orientations yet. James and I have not always agreed, but I have great respect for him and for a job well done.

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Felicitations to Phil and Joan, and a nod is as good as a wink to a blind horse, Mary.

New Brunswick labour leaders meet

Labour leaders in central New Brunswick plan to meet next week to discuss what will happen on the National Day of Protest called by the Canadian Labour Congress for October 14.

It's not known if there will be any support from students or what form such support would take.

Representatives of the Fredericton District Labour Council met Sept. 22 to discuss the matter and SRC president Jim Smith was invited to attend or to send a

representative. The only students who attended were two members of the provincial NDP, James Aucoin, says the lack of response by Smith leads him to believe students are neutral toward the protest.

He says students should be concerned and should express solidarity with labor because of the increased student unemployment this summer, the suspension of such programs as the Opportuni-

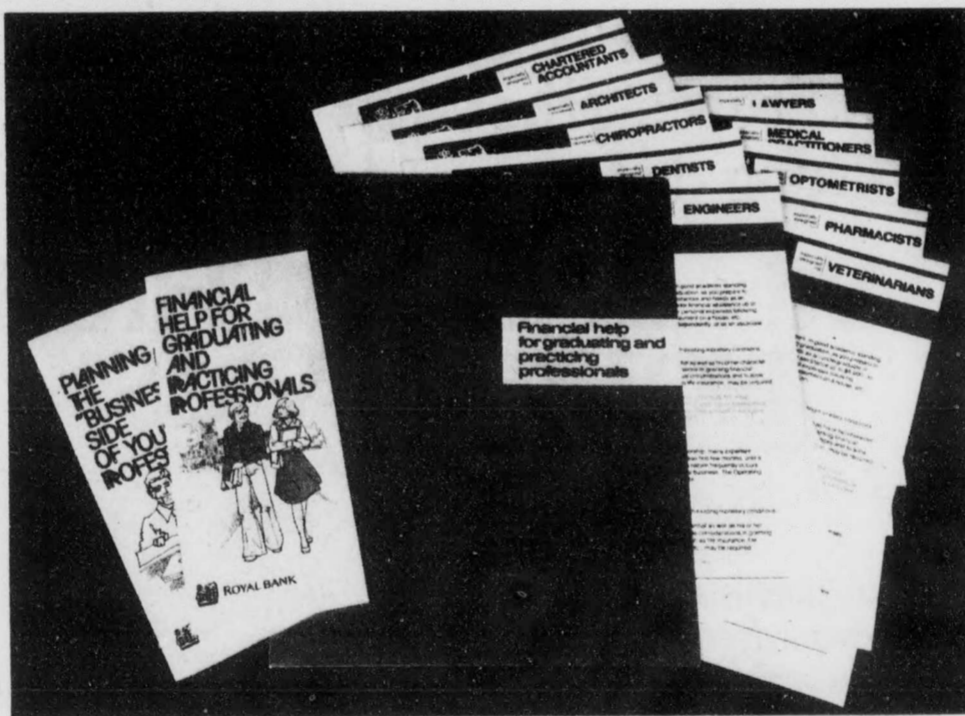
ties For Youth and the increasingly tight labor market.

Smith said he forgot about the meeting and failed to mention it to the individual he had considered sending. He says he hasn't considered the matter, not because he isn't interested, but because he's been busy with plans for the National Students' Day of Concern planned for Nov. 9. He says he isn't informed about the CLC's Day of Protest.

ATTENTION:

On or during the evening of Monday Sept. 20, 1976 approximately 20 cassette tapes were stolen from the C.H.S.C. bar area. Each tape has a cash value of \$7.00. Would the person or persons involved kindly return above mentioned tapes to Jack Delano c/o SUB Office Rm. 106. No legal action will be taken. Your co-operation will be appreciated.

J.T. Delano
Manager
C.H.S.C.



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