

# EAT THIS COLUMN!

weekly froth by  
**JOHN HAMILTON**



Why a cow at the head of my column, you ask? Well, look at it this way: cows are powerful yet gentle, productive without being destructive, and are relaxed in their everyday affairs by still managing to get things done. In fact, most of us owe a large part of our culinary enjoyment to the mooing heroes. So why not a little tribute to our lowing friends? After all, they like people too.

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More Points to Pontificate: An elite is unnecessary but inevitable. By living in a physical world, we exclude much of what in truth exists.

Falling in love is like falling down stairs. You do it too often, you're bound to break something. Any change that you institute yourself can only be for the better, Who said that worshipping the stars is crazy?

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Our SUB washrooms are far from luxurious, but be glad of one thing: they don't contain that most notorious water waster, the automatically-flushing urinal. You know the kinds I mean, they flush every so often on their own, whether necessary or not. These blatantly extravagant devices are most often found in government offices, so presumably civil servants do not have the time for such trivial things as flushing in their otherwise incredibly hectic governmental days. [I wonder what they do at home...]

A personal study (by me) reveals the shocking truth: every four minutes my guinea pig's urinalfaithfully empties five gallons of fresh, clean water into the not-so-fresh sewers of Fredericton. In a day this amounts to nearly two thousand gallons of unnecessary waste, which surely cannot be tolerated.

So what can you do? Boycott urinals. Failing this, request that handles be installed. We cannot afford to allow Canada's most precious resource to swirl down the drain meaninglessly.

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Thanks to those who told me what the insidious blobs of snow clogging my wheel wells are called. They are either slush-buckets or deygoes (for wherever you go, dey-go).

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Line of the week: Hey Cinderella, turn in your glass slippers. You may break them on the pavement of reality.

## Library to automate

By ANNA SUNDIN  
Brunswickan Staff

There are big changes taking place in the Harriet Irving Library here on campus. Some of you may have noticed a change in the lobby of the library - the card catalogue was rearranged during the Christmas break and more recently the photocopiers have been moved to the mezzanine floor. All of this has been done to make room for some computer terminals that will be installed within the next few months and available for use by the students and faculty by the beginning of April this year.

The terminals are part of a new computerized system of cataloguing the library is introducing. The card catalogue has been closed down and will have no more new listings as of January 1 of this year. All material received since 1977 and index-

ed under the Library of Congress system and all material received as of January 1 this year will go into the computerized catalogue system.

The system was developed here on campus by the university library staff and the University of New Brunswick Computing Centre and is the first of its kind in Canada. By the end of the first year of operation there will be 32 terminals in operation and the more than 300 other terminals on campus will also have access to the on-line catalogue.

The system is easy to use - the terminals that will be available for use in the library lobby will have simple command buttons. Press the one marked "lesson" and the "enter" button and you have before you listed 10 lessons that will teach you how to use the system. With a minimum of two of the 10 lessons available, you will be

able to operate the terminal to locate books on a particular subject. The lessons will also be available in printed form for anyone who wishes to take them home.

The hope of the library staff is that a person will consult the terminal for recent works on the topic and then, if more information is needed, consult the card catalogue. The branch libraries to the Harriet Irving Library will also have access to the system. There is even a separate file of over 100,000 records in the area of engineering available.

The system is a definite improvement over the card catalogue as it is no longer necessary to search through a number of cards. Instead one has available right on the screen all the listings for the certain topic and one can make a request for information on a topic as specific or as general as is desirable.

## Ratcliff attends NBCS meeting

By JOHN KNECHTEL  
Brunswickan Staff

Last Saturday, SRC President Kevin Ratcliff attended a meeting of the New Brunswick Coalition of Students and returned with optimism about the future of the organization. Ratcliff said the coalition has been fairly inactive for the past three years but is now, he hopes in a rebuilding stage which will carry it into future years as an effective advocate and united front for student policy and viewpoint with the New Brunswick government.

It deals basically with the monetary issues directly affecting New Brunswick students. Ratcliff said although he cannot speak officially for the coalition, the major obstacle at present is the MPHEC report. He said the report did not recommend enough monetary support to the universities even to cover the cost of living.

Ratcliff said the MPHEC commitment to students is not what it once was. The range between MPHEC suggested grant increases and actual government subsidies has declined in the last ten years. It would appear the MPHEC is lowering its recommendations to reduce conflict between itself and the government, said Ratcliff.

Ratcliff said the success of the coalition depends on the dedication of future student

unions and on the cooperation of the MPHEC. In the past, he said, the MPHEC

has not been responsive to student proposals. A few years ago the coalition

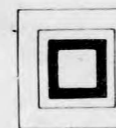
presented its views to the commission in the afternoon and the MPHEC's report was published shortly afterwards implying total disregard for the student proposals, he said.



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