

Front-page editorial criticized

Dear Sir,

The recent front-page Brunswickan editorial has given me grave doubts as to the understanding of the term "rights" (i.e., human rights) on the part of the Brunswickan editorial staff. To be more specific, I think that the editorial staff is under the fallacious impression that rights may be granted by a political institution. This kind of assumption is the basis for

political repression. It is not the function of government to grant rights; it is the function of government to respect rights. The Universal Declaration of Human Rights states (in its preamble) that "the recognition of the inherent dignity of the equal and inalienable rights of all members of the human family is the foundation of freedom, justice and peace in the world." To suggest that in-

dividuals or minorities have only such rights as governments please to give them trivializes the whole concept of human rights and human dignity.

For my second point, violent revolution is only one of a whole array of violent and non-violent methods to express the discontent of (in this case) a student body. I don't suppose those of you on the editorial staff recall a non-

violent student march on the legislature in 1981? Your political naiveté is hardly excusable.

My final criticism of your editorial is that, whatever the shortcomings of the S.U.B. Board (and yes, collective incompetence is one of those shortcomings), President Downey took needless steps of questionable propriety. A negotiated solution should have been attempted before unilateral action. The student

body should have, at the very least, an equal partnership in the administration of this university. The failure of "El Presidente" to respect the student body reeks of authoritarian contempt for the students. It is clear that President Downey has little respect for the students of UNB. He should, therefore, either apologize for his action, or resign forthwith.

Yours sincerely,
Blake Paton

Bosnitch responds (with vengeance)

Editor:

The editorial on the front page of your last issue was even more disappointing than usual; not because it was a continuation of your three year "crusade" to get rid of me, but because you made it perfectly clear that you were willing to sacrifice the legitimate rights of the entire student body in your efforts. I knew just from its title that the editorial was written by Mr. Lethbridge, the same man who tried first as a candidate for Vice President, and then as my outgoing VP, to discredit me politically. Over time I've become so accustomed to the fact that the Bruns is used week after week as a mouthpiece for Lethbridge that it doesn't bother me anymore. However, I must ask that if I am to be attacked,

that I be granted the opportunity to respond in my own defense. Three issues in a row I've tried to have some input in the student newspaper. Everyone from reporters right up to the news editor himself has interviewed me...but almost nothing appears in print. It's a sad commentary that the *Daily Gleaner* gives more support to the student cause than the *Brunswickan* does.

However, regardless of what the *Brunswickan* has in store for the next issue; from the man who you've accused of being immature, inefficient, crooked, dictatorial, and a poor student...please take the following message:

I'll continue to propose new programs such as those for housing and employment, reform the system of representation to decentralize

responsibility and involve more students, expand our growing range of services, and most importantly, I will continue to speak out in defense of those who elected me...the students of this university."

Now I can get back to work...

John Bosnitch
The President
Student Union

Amnesty International

presents show

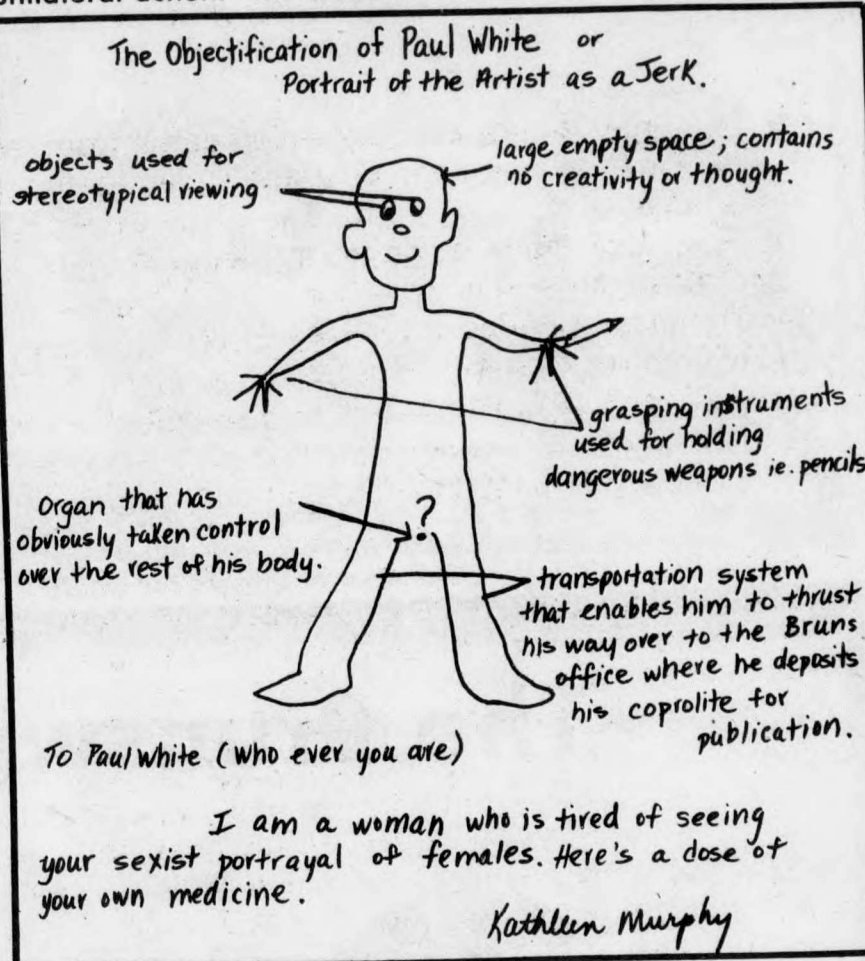
Editor,

Amnesty International, a worldwide human rights organization, works for the release of prisoners of conscience, and the abolition of torture and executions. Amnesty's work is impartial and balanced; its members fulfill this mandate regardless of the ideology or origins of either victim or offender.

On Thursday October 18, Amnesty will present a free concert and a poetry reading at 8p.m. in Marshall D'Avray Hall Room 143, featuring guest artists Lutia Lauzon and Ilkay Silk. To end Prisoner of Conscience Week, the film "Missing" will be shown on Sunday October 21, at 7:00 and 9:00 p.m., in Tilley Hall, as a benefit for Amnesty, admission \$3.00. The next meeting of Fredericton's English-speaking A.I. group will be held on Wednesday October 24, at 8p.m., 749 Charlotte Street.

We invite your readers to help us by supporting or participating in our ongoing effort to publicize and prevent human rights violations, and to assist individual victims. For more information, please call Hannah Lane 455-3473, for the francophone group, call Sylvain Filion, h-459-1407, b-453-2240.

Yours Sincerely,
Hannah M. Lane



Residence system needs board

Dear Sir:

I am writing not only to express my sympathy for Larry Long and the former residents of MacKenzie House, but to point out that they were not the only students who were not re-admitted to the residence system. Myself, along with some other people I know, were told this past summer that we would have to find accommodations elsewhere.

This decision posed a problem for myself because my hometown is Kingston, Ontario. When the bad news arrived, I was busy with a summer job and definitely could not make a trip to Fredericton. I immediately wrote a letter to Dean Reavley Gair, asking him to review former Dean Robert Smith's decision. It was my opinion that I deserved some explanation for this shocking decision. My record at Har-

rison House showed no rule infractions and/or damages to the house and a G.P.A. of a very reasonable 2.85.

It took until late August before I received a reply and no explanation was given. All Dean Gair had to say was that he must go along with Dean Smith's original decision according to what my dons and proctors had recommended.

It is terribly upsetting that even though a student's record could be very positive, certain people's feelings lead to a negative decision.

Your editorial not only brought this situation to the student's attention, but was very correct in suggesting that some sort of board be developed. I hope that in the future other students are not put through the same ordeal I was.

Yours sincerely,
Mark A. Hazlett

Brunswickan "Seig Heils"

Dear Editor:

re: Little Hitler?

I agree with your editorial when it states that President Downey's recent SUB takeover sets alarming precedents. However, alarming as it may be, the takeover is not surpris-



ing because of the well-known mentality of many bureaucrats.

The late UNB writer-in-residence, Alden Nowlan, once said that in every Canadian administrator there lurked a little Hitler. Thus, the UNB President's exercise of "administrative power" only confirms Nowlan's contention! The UNB President is even astrologically suited for the role of bureaucratic dictator. Born under the sign of the Bull, he perhaps could not help becoming sort of a bully; and as he also happens to have been born on Adolf Hitler's birthday, his administrative "liberality" shouldn't astonish anyone.

To top it all off, the least surprising thing of all was that the *Brunswickan's* overall response to the SUB takeover would sound like nothing more than a bleating Sieg-Heil.

Randy J. Goodleaf