

# BLOOD AND THUNDER

Letters to the editor reflect the views of our readers and not necessarily those of the Brunswickian. Letters may be sent to Rm. 35 in the Student Union Building. Deadline: 1 pm on Tuesday. Usual maximum length: 300 words. Please include name, student number and phone number.

## CHSR and the media fee

Dear Editor,  
I am writing to you to try to clear up any questions about student fees that may have arisen for readers or The Brunswickian's lead story in the February 26, 1993 issue (STU Withholds CHSR Funding). There are two points that I feel are of concern to UNB undergraduate students. Firstly, the article states that the proposed plebiscite was "to determine if students would be prepared to fund the station at a projected cost of \$10.88 per student next year."

While this is indeed what the plebiscite intended to determine, the question does not indicate to students that the \$10.88 levied from their student fees is not an increased amount. In fact, this level of funding for CHSR has always been present. Supporting the station at this level will not affect the total cost of student fees at all.

The second point which concerns UNB undergraduates was not mentioned in this particular article, but I feel the time has come to make public a way to decrease student fees and still support the two media on campus at a reasonable funding level. The method has already been introduced on several university campuses in Canada and it is called a media fee. Basically, students support the media through a fee levied separately from their student fees. In turn, their student fees decrease by the amount previously being given to the media (i.e. \$10.88). But how does having a separate media fee lessen the burden to UNB students? If a media fee were in place, the media would seek to balance the contributions from all three main supporting bodies (the UNB SU, the STU SU and the GSA) and thereby decrease the amount donated by UNB undergrads.

Using such a fee the media assumes control over its own budget. It will also provide the media with concrete budget information for each upcoming year in advance. This will greatly improve operations and efficiency resulting in possible media fee reductions in the future.

CHSR has been operating since Jan. 22, 1961. It intends to continue operating for a very long time to come and, I think, a media fee would guarantee the continued existence of your radio station. While CHSR's funding problems are always a hot topic of conversation, a media fee has the potential for stabilizing these problems without increasing the financial burden to UNB students.

Sincerely,  
Miranda Cameron

## Individualism and reality

Dear Editor,  
A.J. Carrisse's criticism of John Valk's discussion of the "perils of individualism" does not stand up to a realistic examination. While it may be possible to find many instances where different individuals have different perceptions of reality, this in no way demonstrates that reality itself is "all inclusive", or a "self-contained, self-defined phenomenon", as he contends.

Reality, or truth, will exist objec-

tively, whether or not anyone believes it. For example, if my reality says I have \$10,000 in my bank account when all records show that I don't, will the bank allow my [sic] to withdraw the \$10,000 which exists in my own self-defined reality? Obviously not. Or if a person has really died, will the fact that someone else perceives them to be alive (in their reality) make the body get out of the casket?

All scientific investigations are based upon the premise that what is true in one scientist's lab should also be demonstrable in another's. For this reason, publications must include a section describing the methods used, so that anyone else can verify the results of the original investigator. If reality was all inclusive, each scientist could define it for him/herself, and we could dispense with the methodology descriptions. But this clearly would be ridiculous. Science proceeds on the basis of belief in an objective reality that exists whether or not our descriptions of it are accurate.

I believe it is the same for questions of a spiritual nature; If God exists, He exists whether or not anyone believes in Him. Similarly, the form of His existence (eg. personal/impersonal) does not depend on the perceptions of human beings at any time or place. An assertion that this realm is somehow different than the above examples can only be based on unjustified assumption.

As a second point, I feel that Carisse may have misinterpreted the meaning of community. To be part of a community (church) in the Christian sense, in no way implies a loss of one's individuality. Scriptural teachings emphasize the importance and unique gifts of every individual as imperative to the proper functioning of the community as a whole.

S.K. Arndt

## Let's all go to the opera

Dear Editor,  
I'm pissed off!! I have had it with the neverending tales of lacking University funds and resulting cut back in programs. The Brunswickian of February 26th ran an article stating that the members of the Board of Governors has received complementary tickets to the Phantom of the Opera. This money, of course, comes from the students (sic) pockets in the form of tuition.

The tickets go for \$32.50 a shot and will be issued to 45 Governors. In case they weren't issued a complementary calculator this year, that comes to \$1462.50. That same money could have been used to sent (sic) marks out at Christmas to roughly 3400 students! Ironically, the play coincides with the Board of Governors next meeting in which next year's tuition rates are to be discussed. I sure hope Broadway doesn't schedule a stop in Fredericton next year.

Last year's tuition went up by \$250.00 and another increase in (sic) undoubtedly due this year. I ask that one of the Board of Governor's members respond in a general letter to this and explain why students who are currently in a dismal summer job market must allocate some of their hard earned money or loan money to send these people to see a play. I know that if I have to pay for this sort of arrangement next year, I wouldn't mind having the option of paying an extra \$0.43 and have my marks mailed out at Christmas.

In complete ignorance,  
Rob Neil

## Response to the Wimmin's Room

Dear Editor,  
I would like to respond to Valerie Kilfoil's column on reverse discrimination in the last issue of the Brunswickian, and I challenge you to

publish it.

Valerie, last issue you made a lot of statements in favour of reverse discrimination and although your aim may or may not be well meaning, your readership deserves a better and unbiased source of information.

It seems that most people in Canada and especially in University, are fairly quiet about expressing their expressions, and content to allow the most radical special interest groups dictate what is morally and politically correct. This is because anybody who disagrees is labelled a racist or sexist. Instead of responding to genuine criticism with genuine cross-criticism [sic], a game of being politically correct is carried out. It is time to stop being whimps [sic] and start being fair, nomatter what whining ensues.

Valerie, you stated "that during the past five decades only men were hired [in work]". You know Valerie I worked for 9 years before I returned to school, and I could have sworn I saw females at work. Must have been my imagination. (I don't have to say any more about that statement).

You stated that in Toronto (the "bizarre") you thought it was O.K. that the firefighting department wanted to "simply bump" women and minorities ahead of white men, and you stated that they passed the

same tests. Wrong!! Check your facts. Women are allowed to score less. Also, many of the "ominous" white males have families to support, which includes women and children. In the real world, you need a job to survive, which is hard to come by nowadays. Are you saying that I have less right to provide for my family than a non-white male or female?

You stated that your "Feminist Theory in Education" class had a grand-sounding "ideology of liberal classical society". I hope you get a chance to experience life outside of what the text books tell you, sometime.

I will agree with you on one point that you made when you stated that you were opposed to equal treatment, that men and women are not equal (i.e. physically or physiologically). This is why I am opposed to hiring quotas - they don't take this fact into account.

If there is a difference in the demographics of the employed of a sector of employment, it should be investigated as to why. Is it physical? Physiological? Then, is it bad? If it was that women didn't have the same chances to education, then change it at that end. Does this sector attract

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