

Blood and Thunder

Sheer hypocrisy

Note: That the individual student councils cannot represent the individual views of their respective student bodies (on abortion) as abortion is very much a personal view point."

p. 7 of the official minutes of the UNB Student Council meeting held Nov. 1, 1989.

I am amazed at the sheer hypocrisy of the UNB Student Union in bringing in Dr. Morgentaler as the feature speaker of the SU organized Spring Fest '90, without even an opposing speaker! This is the same student union which defeated a motion that took a stand in favour of unrestricted access to abortion (motion 12.2, minutes of UNB Student Council meeting held Nov. 1, 1989). This is the same student union whose representatives subsequently formally opposed several motions to this effect at a meeting of the Canadian Federation of Students (CFS) last fall (Bruns Nov. 17 issue, p. 1). Why? Because the SU had directed its delegates that "...the UNB Student Union holds abortion to be an inappropriate subject for the CFS to address..." (motion 12.3, minutes of same meeting). The Note quoted above was appended to that motion. SU president Wayne Carson expanded on this motion to the Brunswickan, saying that "the issue is too controversial for a few university students to speak on behalf of the larger student population. Without a referendum... no official position should be taken by the Union." (text quoted from the Bruns Nov. 10 issue p.7). A wise decision, a clear position: the SU would not be partisan on this controversial issue, because a) as representatives of the student body, they could not agree on a position on either side, and b) it was inappropriate for them to do so anyway.

Now, they are bringing in Morgentaler, the Canadian champion of the "unrestricted abortion" platform, to speak on "It's a matter of choice". This is a clear endorsement of the pro-choice stance by the Student Union. They declared this to be inappropriate for any student union to do, yet they themselves have done it. Surely they are also sponsoring a Canadian champion of the pro-life stance? They are not. A local representative? No. An alternative event? Not even. Well, perhaps the SU's reversal in position was in response to a consultation of the student body. No, there was not even a whisper of consultation.

I ask the UNB Student Union: who are you to endorse one side in this controversial issue? Who are you to decide that the student body shall have the opportunity to hear that side, but not the other? How dare you spend student money sponsoring Morgentaler only, giving him your best campus-wide publicity? Which of you are grinding your own personal axes in the name of the UNB Student Union? You have some explaining to do.

Chris Bayly

Good-bye friend

I think as engineering students, we can all relate to the enormous undertaking involved in attaining the final goal, to graduate as engineers in the particular discipline of our choice. And along the way, I'm sure that everyone has at one time or another felt that things seemed too much to bear sounds better, or that the work load seemed insurmountable. But somehow, in our individual ways, we manage to get through on a lot of faith and hard work.

Part of my faith came from a man I met as I was starting out as a student. Although I had never met this man before, as soon as he discovered that I was studying engineering (electrical in my case), he became a friend. For he too had once, some time ago, studied engineering at UNB, and although the courses he took were not the same as mine, he understood the process of becoming an engineer and we could instantly relate. Many a time I found myself telling him that it wasn't getting any easier and I didn't know if I could do it and his response was just about always the same. "It's like becoming part of another family", he would say, "and once you have that, no one can ever take it away from you".

Well, my friend passed away quietly a little while ago, and although I shall miss him very much, I will always remember what he has told me and I will keep it with me throughout my engineering career. I will miss you Charlie.

For: Mr. Charles A. Fleet, Class of 1924, Electrical Eng. who passed away quietly, 22nd Feb. 1990, at the age of 91 yrs.

Stephen M. O'Donnell



Underdogs

To the Sports Editor

Ever since November, students at UNB have been reading about a second rate team known as the Rebels. Even though the Rebels are far more than a second rate team, this is the impression one gets from reading Mark Savoie's articles that chronicle the "prohibitive underdogs" season in the AUAA.

Despite the bad reports and the weakening support from the student body, subsequently caused by the bad reports, the Rebels earned the right to travel to Halifax to compete in the AUAA championship series. The Rebels did lose in Halifax, but we did not "Drop two to Dalhousie" like Mark Savoie's column would have you believe. In fact Dalhousie head coach Al Scott said in the Chronicle Herald "In my eleven years at DAL it was the tightest match we've ever had in the championships."

Now, mark Savoie, I don't want a reply column or an apology next to this little letter, but I do want you to, next year, be a little more complimentary to a team that gave it all they had to overcome a perennial AUAA title team and failed. Even though they didn't win a little praise goes a long way.

Jeff Foot

Life Lines

Flight 90 began like any other flight. The 737 took off leaving from Washington, D.C. in heavy snow. Suddenly, tragedy struck. The Florida bound skid across a traffic-clogged bridge and into the icy waters of the Potomac River. When the rescue helicopter arrived only six passengers could be seen. The helicopter dangled a life preserver to a particular man who time after time passed the preserver to someone else. When the helicopter finally returned to him, he had disappeared to his death. A hero? Yes. Christ did a similar unselfish act when he died on the cross, bearing the sins of the world on his shoulders. As a result we don't have to bear the burden and our sins can be forgiven. Christ is the greatest friend anyone could have.

"Greater love has no one than this, that one lay down his life for his friend." (John 15:13)

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Rm. 35, Student Union Building
DEADLINE: 5 PM, Tuesday
MAXIMUM WORDS: 300

Leave my output alone

To 'the management' bin?
I received your note on my output, and there are a few facts I would like to point out to you. I use the mainframe to do research. Everything that I print out is the FINAL result of a chemical computation on a certain molecule, each piece of output is unique. I do not print out errors or intermediate jobs. The programs that I work with solve very complex mathematical equations and generate sets of results which must be examined in detail, and used for other computations. When you remove my printout from the bin I was assigned, you are throwing away results that I need to complete my thesis, meaning that they will have to be repeated - and it will take me longer to graduate. Thank you for your concern about my work, but the advice you gave me does not apply. I collect my printout as quickly as I can, but due to varying turn-around time and my teaching responsibilities, it may sometimes get in your way. For this I apologize. If you would however, kindly leave my output alone, I would be out of your bin a lot faster than if you insist on removing it for others to cart away as scrap paper. In conclusion just a friendly warning, if you are caught removing printout that is not your own, you will lose the privilege of using the computer. And then where would you be? (I guess at least then you would not have to share my bin!)

Yours sincerely,
A fellow user of bin?

Subjected

To the Editor:

During the past year, the student body has been subjected to the "In The Pink" column and while this letter is not intended to be an attack against the writer of the column or the beliefs held by the author, I have been getting bored with an ongoing debate between the two extremes on the issue.

It does seem to me that such a column on a monthly basis would be acceptable but in the meantime, perhaps Mr. Gill could use his impressive communication skills to inform the student body as to some of the developments on the Board of Governors which directly affect students. I believe that Mr. Gill received a mandate to represent the student body on the Board rather than using the Bruns as a pulpit for expounding his views - a right to which he is entitled but one which he has abused with his column.

While he does not purport to speak on behalf of an interest group with which he is associated and I accept his explanation, it is apparent that the organization has effectively gained free access to a forum which is denied other groups through James Gill.

The policy of the Bruns should be to deny all groups the right to a forum in the paper or to allow all of them to run a column which is obviously impossible to accommodate. As well, there is no way one person should have a by-line which enables that individual to express views which while not necessarily the policy of the organization to which he belongs, probably are generally representative of that group's beliefs.

Perspectives

by Wm. Mott Stewart

True Cooperation has its final goal in socialism, which is the continual observance of the Golden Rule.

E. A. Partridge.

I have read the phrase "collapse of socialism in Eastern Europe" at least a hundred times in our newspapers and magazines in the last few months. This is a patently false and libelous statement.

For socialism to have collapsed in Eastern Europe, it first would have had to have been practised there. It wasn't. It was of course communism which was practised in Eastern Europe, and communism which has collapsed there. To imply that socialism bears any similarity to communism is mystifying and invidious

reasoning of the first water.

Indeed, communism and socialism do not even belong to the same class - one is a totalitarian political philosophy, whereas the other is a democratic economic philosophy.

Communism is based on violently obtaining and violently maintaining power, one-party rule, suppression of religion, expansionism, and suppression of the free press. Communism is a cruel, evil, and unmitigated failure.

Now socialism, on the other hand, is based on the reasonable supposition that the democratically elected representatives have a right and duty to attempt to provide every citizen with an equal opportunity to succeed.

Continued on page 15