

# EDITORIAL

## "Lets go Bowling!"

Abbie Hoffman

Over twenty years ago student activism was prevalent on campus' all over North America, and UNB was no exception to the phenomenon. UNB students of the day fought hard and long for the administration to take notice, and they were successful. The results they achieved included student representation on the Board of Governors, the establishment of a student union, and the creation of a student union building.

That was then. Now our student union would not dare raise their voices in opposition to the administration for fear of offending the all mighty. They don't even attempt to fight for the return of what was once ours. As Abbie Hoffman (a member of the Chicago seven) said here at UNB only 2 years ago: "There is no student activism today".

Dr. Downey in his opening message to UNB students said "a strong Council began to restore order and purpose to student politics." To Dr. Downey a strong council is one that accepts all his decisions without question because he will not tolerate dissent from within its ranks.

The Tony Tracy incident is such an example. Mr. Tracy legitimately won the election of comptroller only to find out the council - headed by Larry Hansen - refused to seat him. Apparently he was mentioned in an audit for receiving unauthorized funds. Most observers of the situation knew that the funds were earned in the student photocopy centre. The real reason for failing to seat Mr. Tracy was that he would present opposition to the Foundation which now controls all of the students money.

The student's council also have failed to support elected student members of the Board of Governors. On two occasions the Board removed student representatives for what they considered "inappropriate action". Students for a democratic society may have responded to action like that with a sit in, but our student council stood idly by *because they did not like* the two members.

The main achievement of the student movement on campus was the Student Union Building (SUB) built in 1967. The purpose of the building was "to fulfill the social, recreational and cultural needs of the students, faculty, staff, alumni and guests of UNB and STU" according to the *Beaverbook*. The building was also to be run by the students for the students, but more than five years after the administration take over our students council has not attempted to regain control of the SUB. The SUB is not even run for the students anymore. Just look at the new wall which was recently installed in the Blue Lounge. How does it benefit the students? IT DOESN'T!

The true irony of the whole situation is that one of the student leaders of the late 50's - *who often complained about the unjust activities of the administration - is now part of the administration which is committing similar injustices.*

## The 8% solution

Following the Student Union investigation into allegations of sexism at (and in) *The Brunswickan*, a recommendation has been tabled that would, in effect, result in censorship. In a report presented to Council, the investigating committee suggested the creation of a "Brunswickan Board of Directors." Simply, this Board would have the power to censor material they feel "is unacceptable to the university community."

What constitutes unacceptability? And how do we know what (or indeed, if) the university community is thinking? Are a couple of letters to the editor/publisher representative of the university community at large? I think not.

Given that only 8 per cent of UNB's student population turned out for last year's student elections, how will the Board of Directors ever ascertain what the majority of students deem as unacceptable?

The investigating committee also criticized the apparent "lack" of an editorial policy. Surely, the editorial policy should be the responsibility of the editor. From a purely practical point of view, the editor must have the freedom to make the final decision. If he or she is at the beck and call of a dictatorial Board of Directors, the editor might as well hang up the cut-knife, throw out the cigars, and retire.



Mugwump

By

Bill Traer

Journal

The Olympics are now over and ABC TV, obviously hurting for quality material, is premiering a new series this weekend. The series, called Supercarrier features the derring do of a bunch of pilots on an American Nuclear Aircraft Carrier. ABC seems to have brought in the top guns on this one. This show is sure to have great serial footage and little else.

After running several unpopular and boring elections the SU has turned to the head of Campus Entertainment, Marc Braithwaite. Rest assured that Marc's election will feature more than just "politics". I hear he's got a Gary Hart type candidate lined up. Who's going to play Donna.

I see that SUB Director Kim Norris is busy again these days with renovations. I agree with his decision to wall off the Blue Lounge. However, the wall is ugly and flimsy. If you're going to do something, do it right the first time. Build a wall that's stronger, flush with the rest of the building and blends in. By the way, wall off the other side soon.

Hey, Want to know a sure way to lose money. Hold an event on campus and hire Bar Services. Every Campus Entertainment Event this year has lost money, yes, even those filled to capacity. Remember the Double Blues Band, packed, had a great time, lost money. Recently, Campus Entertainment tried to get the Ballroom through the Social Club for an upcoming event. Bar Services denied them access (Politics Folks). Did they want the money themselves or is the University trying to drive the nail further into the coffin of the CHSC?

Speaking of the Social Club, they've got this great one man band there today and tomorrow. Hopefully, this act will hold everyone captive.

Dear Jane. Heard you had a nice meeting with Frank McKenna the other day. Something to do with student affairs. Too bad you refuse to give us an interview. I had to read about it in the Telegraph Journal.

Oh yeah. How about Eddie "The Eagle" Edwards. Never has a loser won so much.

Ernie heard about Jean-Maurice Simard's plan to take just a dollar a year as publisher for *Le Matin*. Ernie said he might give his honoraria back to the S.U. He's thinking about it. He thought about it. Nah.

and

Stephen Marks

Hi. Bill is out to lunch. I'm just filling in for a bit. Unfortunately, he said he'll be back. Oh oh, here he comes now. Nope, sorry false alarm. It's not always possible to keep track of Bill.

Heh, heh, heh...They gave me another section to write in. Will the fools never learn? (short refreshing pause) Mugwump Journal?! The last mug I "wumped" exploded into several million shards of glass and, worse yet, the beer spilt all over the floor. Drag...

Heard Svend Robinson publically admitted to a fairly well-known fact: that he is a homosexual. Hopefully, he won't lose any support, but people may think twice before saying they'll stand behind him.

Back to the condoms...Ever made a balloon out of one? Probably. So what's the problem, you say. Ever done it in front of a guy? Probably...That, my dear readers, is (gasp, shock, horror) sexual harassment...Makes you wonder, eh!

Don't forget the Miramichi Revival this weekend (Saturday to be more precise).

Oh yeah, the word of the week is gobbledygook. Lawyer speak. Right Larry?