

BLOOD AND THUNDER

Twenty years later...March!

Dear Editor,

It has been a long time, 20 years to be exact, that I have written to the Brunswickan regarding the issue of war. Once again it is in opposition to the American military, and imperialistic moves in the Gulf region. As a student activist from the 60s, I thought that Vietnam would have taught the Western world a lesson. Neither the French nor the Americans could win that war. The same applies to this war in the Gulf. Since the Crusades, no Western power has ever dominated the Arab world. As a matter of fact it has resulted in their humiliation and humble defeat. This war is about the new American "buzz" words; "The New World Order". With the USSR out of the way, the American military has been itching since Vietnam, to get into a major conflict with a bogus boogey man; Saddam Hussein. I'm not glorifying his actions, because they are just as wrong as George Bush's actions. The problem is that the wider issues of this war, and its opposition critics are being suppressed in order to win public support. It is obvious that the media has been targeted right from the start. I must say that the American government has learned from Vietnam on this account. I have never seen such blatant suppression of facts and information about this war, and to some extent its [sic] working. It's so easy to justify certain policies under the guise of freeing the poor little nation of Kuwait, and stopping the Hitler madman, Hussein! What I find even more objectionable is how much emphasis is given over the media about the superior technology of the West, that will win this war. It sure as well didn't work in Vietnam!

Perhaps the most disappointing aspect of the whole letter is the lack of involvement by the UNB students. If the opinion poll over the Iraqi flag issue is correct, then 60% of the students are somewhat in opposition to this war. I then ask where the hell are your voices! If you don't want Canada involved in this war, then get off your com-

fortable butts and say so. Nothing ever changes unless you want it to. There is a chance for you to have a say in the democratic process. Let me tell you, you will be noticed by the government, an experience I know worked quite well in the past. It doesn't have to be violent, just passionate, sincere and peaceful.

Before I close, I hope the students of UNB are aware of what happened on the U of M campus, when over a dozen anti-war songs were banned from being played on the campus radio. If they are members of the CFS, they should be severely criticised.

And finally what do you say when your 7 year old daughter says - "Dad, why do people have wars? Are the kids over there going to be alright?"

A part time student
Staff member, and CUPE
1326 rep.
William Parker

Education Headaches

Dear Sir:

My name is Ian MacDonald and I am currently enrolled in the one year Bachelor of Education program at the University of New Brunswick. I graduated from this same university in May of 1990 with a Bachelor of Science degree with a major in Math, first division. And in those four years down the hill, I have never been so poorly treated by an administration until I came up to the Faculty of Education.

I feel that I must clarify myself. When I had found out that I had been accepted to the one year program, I was ecstatic. I was on my way to Australia for the summer, and I had been chosen as one of the 'select few' who received admission to this highly sought after program. I returned home early from overseas (I could have stayed there a whole year) to attend this faculty.

I discovered that after paying full year tuition, the students in the faculty would have a month off. No classes, no internship, no ob-

servations, nothing. I think this is ridiculous! I can see paying for Intersession courses, and I can understand paying for Supervisors during the three months of Internship, but not paying for a month to do nothing. Some students say that they would kill to have a month off from school but not many would pay \$250 to do just that.

Another insult - placement for student teaching. I received my official notification of placement on the fourteenth of January, post-marked on the eleventh of January, typed on the twelfth of December! In fact, the letter states: "Please contact your cooperating teacher(s)...before the Christmas break." Not only were we told that we would know where we would be teaching by the end of November, we don't even receive notification until one week AFTER school has resumed. I find this treatment totally inexcusable!

Similar letters of complaint have been sent to the head of Student Teaching, the Dean of Students, the Dean of Education and the Vice President of the university. I am not alone in my dissatisfaction with this program and we do not intend to let this matter rest.

The point of this letter is to inform the student body of this shoddy treatment of graduates trying to enter one of the more noble professions and to warn anyone who will listen that is planning on entering this faculty: save yourself the effort - don't bother. Go to St. Thomas. They treat you a lot better.

Respectfully yours,
Ian MacDonald

Joy and pain

Dear Editor,

A great feeling of pride swept me on the day of "The Singapore Experience". It was heartwarming to see so many Singaporeans turn out in force to help the event go as smoothly as we possibly could manage. The sight of the Singaporeans sacrificing their class time and, also, staying behind to clean up without being asked in itself made the event a success.

The purpose of this letter is to express my disgust at the Sin-

gaporeans who could not even be bothered to attend the event. I am certain all of you have very valid SELF CENTERED excuses for not attending, much less contributing toward the event although you probably know we were short of manpower. Your other priorities are probably so important that you could not spare an hour of your time towards our event promoting your own country. I am truly appalled at your selfishness. Some of you are so passive and apathetic that you probably do not read this publication anyway.

Hian T. Pang

Some Corrections

Dear Editor,

Due to the enormous number of typos my most recent letter to the editor was reduced in large part to nonsense. My inept penmanship must bear the brunt of the responsibility.

I do however stand by my objections to Professor Yaqzan's article on the Gulf Crisis, the Dead Meat headline and the removal of the Iraqi flag. As with the current US led military action in the Gulf, there is little connexion [sic] between the stated objectives of the actors, and the means chosen [sic] to carry them out. In each case we are left to ponder why more reasonable and just alternatives were not given a real chance.

Patrick Clement

Give Thanks!

Dear Editor,

The Singapore Students Association Executive Committee would like to express its heartfelt thanks to the following guests, members, and friends for their support and help in the recent Singapore Exhibition and food fair:

Prof. & Mrs. Hiew
The OCSA
The MSS

The SU Executive Committee
Ms. Kay Naudial

All Singaporeans and friends who had helped us so much.

We were especially honoured to have the President Dr. Armstrong, The Associate Vice-President (Admin) Prof. Garland and his lovely wife Mrs. Garland share the special occasion with us.

The Singapore Students
Association

It was not MEAT

Dear Kwame,

As the instigator of the MEAT concept for the entertainment section of the Brunswickan, I'm afraid that I must ask you to discontinue using my logo as a section sub-heading. While I have been tempted to protest on previous occasions (including what appeared to be a blatant endorsement of recreational drug usage) the association of the MEAT logo with the shamelessly jingoistic nonsense paraded in the January 18th issue caused me some distress. Furthermore, it has been brought to my attention that many of our friends and colleagues are becoming embarrassed to wear our MEAT T-shirts for fear of being recognised as proponents of the aforementioned drivel.

No doubt the incumbent editors will whine about the questionable standards of a man who brought them features that consisted of dodgy guides to safe-sex and the adventures of a boy with enormous testicles. However, it must be said that while we indulged in our fair share of hyperbole and hutzis, the old MEAT mentality would have certainly recognised the existence of hypocrites and monsters on both sides of the current international tragedy.

In closing one must also question the relevance of including such immature and ill-conceived political material in an entertainment section at all.

Best wishes
Your pal
Steve Griffiths

Brunswickan Staff Meetings
Fridays 12:30 p.m.
Room # 35, S.U.B.