



Friday and yet another Mugwump that is not allowed to be in any way negative or rude (I also not allowed to insult our lord and self imposed fashion adviser Wayne Carson). However, in light of the fact that I don't feel that the Prez is above the constructive criticism that he so desperately needs, we will get on with A good old fashion "slime em" Mugwump (heh! heh!).

A CBC-TV news team was here early in the week filming a story on challenge grants being used to fund the production of various student handbooks (by students, of course) and, not surprisingly, the big guy himself and his number one boy Gary Clarke were right there getting their profile's on TV. Neither of these two could ever resist a P.R. opportunity anyway. (Hell, with what we had to shell out for his damn desk the least the Prez could do is stay at it!)

Now let's turn our aggression...er...rather constructive criticism...towards some Prof's here who start notes and stuff on the board only to stop half way through and erase the entire thing and start all over - listen guys we are all on fixed income here and \$1000 on note paper a term is not a part of the big picture. Also, profs should realise that they are not transparent and that there isn't much point to writing elaborate notes on the board and then interposing their bodies between the board and the class. (I hate it when that happens)

On the lighter side, the Bruns wants to welcome the latest cog in our machine, the new MEAT man Miro Weisner - Welcome aboard and best of luck working in the UNB rubber room Dept.

Also, a note too the engineers, the Paper Post is now here so the work you never can get us to do can get done and you will never need to be anywhere near us. On a gloomier note the Paper Post will charge you while we'll (try to) do it for free.

For those of you out there who are perplexed as to why this does not sound like another trip down to Australia, well our managing editor and resident Australian travel guide is resting this week and might be back to amaze and amuse you with her stories of the great down under next week.

Apparently something happened at the Social Club on Wednesday night, but we don't know what. Our natural journalistic curiosity is killing us so if anyone out there can enlighten us on what transpired we would be forever grateful...

Word of the Week: Photogenenic - see SU executive. (particularly Wayne and Gary.)



With staff like this what do you expect?

OPINION...

Perhaps a Higher Purpose? The CHSR-FM Question

*"Happily, political institution kill as seldom as they cure."
Goldwin Smith, 1861*

Many people have perceived the new funding formula proposed by the Executive Committee of the UNB Student Union to be an attempt to kill CHSR-FM, rather than an attempt to cure some of the problems associated with the campus/community radio station. People have stated that I am on a "power trip." This is not so. I am not attempting to use the "power" of my office to force the St. Thomas University Students Representative Council and the UNB Graduate Students Association to pay the fair and equitable per student cost associated with the operation of the station. People have called us "simpletons" and "buffons" for the manner in which we have attempted to implement a Media Fee, an initiative of the UNB Student Union. I ask the individuals who have made those statements, as well as the entire university community, to consider the following question: Might there be a higher purpose to the new funding formula?

CHSR-FM has a virus, and with most viruses a fever must first occur before a cure if found. The UNB Student Union has created the fever and, in my opinion, found the cure. The virus at CHSR is the hands off approach taken by its Board of Directors and employees with respect to defining and enunciating the station's role and purpose, as well as their failure to encourage the student representative organizations to resolve some of the longstanding problems they have had about the stations.

In my opinion, there are five requirements which must be met to cure the virus at CHSR. The first is that the station must define and enunciate clearly its role and purpose in serving students at UNB and STU, as well as the greater university and Fredericton communities. Secondly, each of the three student organizations (UNBSU, STU SRC and GSA) must define their role and support for the stations. Thirdly, the relationship between the CHSR Board of Directors and the station must be clearly defined. The fourth requirement is that CHSR must investigate other potential funding sources, such as the UNB and STU Administration and the Fredericton City Council. As well, the station must attempt to increase its advertising revenue. It currently costs \$105,000 to operate CHSR, a sum that will continue to increase. Students will not always be able to foot the entire bill. The fifth requirement is that CHSR must bridge the current gap that exists between the stations and the 10,000 students at UNB and STU through a survey to determine what the students want in their radio station. It is important to note that none of this will occur unless there are rational, cooperative and productive discussions between the parties involved. The Executive Committees' goal is not to cut funding to CHSR or to resolve a conflict between the STU SRC and UNB Student Union. Our goal is to ensure a stable and productive future for CHSR, one in which the stations can realize its full potential in serving the UNB/STU community.

My support for CHSR in the past year has been unequivocal. I am fully convinced of CHSR and its necessity to the UNB/STU community. I believe that it is currently under funded. Much of its capital equipment is in need of replacement and upgrading, as evidenced by the current \$43,000 Master Control Room project (to which UNB Student Union is contributing approximately \$24,000). CHSR is essential to the intellectual and moral health of the UNB/STU community.

Based on these beliefs, why then do I advocate a funding cut? I do so because of my belief that the virus at CHSR will not be cured without a motivating factor, a little dose of penicillin so to speak, to force discussion about the station, its players, and the future of CHSR. The dose of penicillin that I advocate is a new funding formula, based on principles of fairness and equity, that would amount to each full-time student at UNB and STU paying the per student cost of operating the station (i.e one of the goals of the Media Fee proposal). This formula would amount to an \$11,000 cut in CHSR's 1989/90 budget, a cut that the station cannot live with. However, it is an approach which would force people to think about CHSR and its very existence. An approach that would result in a cure to the virus at CHSR. I fully believe that CHSR will not realize its full potential unless the five requirements I have mentioned are fulfilled. I also believe, that the requirements will not be fulfilled without some sort of motivating factor.

At our February 8th meeting, Council failed to pass the motion that would implement the new funding formula. I fully respect this decisions although I disagree with it. In Council's opinion, the virus at CHSR can be cured without a shot of penicillin. My experience with the issue in the past 10 months has led me to a different belief. A belief which I truly hope is mistaken.

It appears as if we are all in agreement with the end, but not the means of achieving it. I hope that the end of CHSR-FM achieving its potential is realized, for if so, CHSR-FM will contribute to the development of unity among the UNB and STU communities and provide a continuing expression of student and faculty identity.

Wayne C Carson
President, Chief "Simpleton" and Head "Buffoon"
UNB Student Union

